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LP News

**Libertarian
vote
results**

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Record-breaking year marks huge step forward for LP



Libertarian presidential candidate Gov. Gary Johnson rallies in Richmond, Va.

Libertarian voter registrations nearing 500,000

2016 was a banner year for the Libertarian Party, shattering the party's past records for votes, media coverage, voter registrations, donations, endorsements, and ballot access.

4,368,411 Americans (the count as of this writing) cast a vote for the Libertarian ticket of Gov. Gary Johnson for President and Gov. William Weld for Vice President—more than three times as many votes as the party's previous high of 1,275,951, set by Johnson and his running mate, Judge James P. Gray, in 2012.

It's also the highest vote total for a third-party presidential ticket since Ross Perot ran as a Reform Party candidate in 1996.

The ticket did so well that virtually every major progressive media outlet in the country blamed Libertarian voters for Democrat Hillary Clinton's loss.

The presidential tickets of the Libertarians, Democrats, and Republicans were the only ones on the ballot in all 50 states, plus D.C.

"This Election Day is, without a doubt, the beginning of a new era for the Libertarian Party," said Nicholas Sarwark, Chair of the Libertarian National Committee.

As of November, Libertarian voter registrations nationwide came in just shy of the half-million mark at 499,492, up from 411,250 registered voters in February. This is the highest-ever number of registered voters for the LP, and is more than that of any nationally organized party in U.S. history, other than the Democratic and Republican Parties.

As former governors, Johnson and Weld were lightning rods for the LP, attracting record media, donations, and votes. The ticket received ten times as much high-profile me-

Big ballot-access wins for the Libertarian Party

by Bob Johnston and Carla Howell

As a result of the November vote totals of Libertarian Gary Johnson for president, as well as that of several down-ticket candidates, the Libertarian Party now has ballot access in 37 states, plus the District of Columbia—more states than after any election in the party's history.

"This is a tremendous accomplishment for the Libertarian Party," said Nicholas Sarwark, Chair of the Libertarian National Com-

mittee. "No other political party, other than the two old parties, has achieved this level of post-election ballot access in over 100 years."

The **Texas** LP retained ballot access with Railroad Commission candidate Mark Miller receiving over 5 percent. The party would have had to collect over 80,000 signatures to get back on the ballot if no statewide candidate had received 5 percent. This will save the party approximately \$220,000 in petitioning cost.

The LP retained ballot access in **North Carolina** for four years, with Gary Johnson and the gubernatorial candidate, Lon Cecil, each getting over 2 percent. The party would have had to collect over 100,000 signatures to get back on the ballot, if neither the presidential nor gubernatorial candidate had achieved 2 percent, saving the party approximately \$250,000 in petitioning cost.

Oklahoma retained party status for two years for the first time ever after an election, because Johnson got over 2.5 percent of the

"No other political party, other than the two old parties, has achieved this level of post-election ballot access in over 100 years."

—Nicholas Sarwark, LNC Chair

continued on page 8...

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CHAIR'S CORNER

by Nicholas Sarwark, Chair

During the holiday season, I like to focus on those things and people I am thankful for. After this year, there is so much more to be thankful for than at any other point in Libertarian Party history.

Thank you to Gary Johnson and Bill Weld for running a Presidential campaign that tripled the previous record in vote totals and vote percentage in a year when voter turnout for the old parties was down. By covering the spread in the battleground states and giving a voice to over four million Americans who were not represented by either old party nominee, they put the Libertarian Party in an excellent position to be a political force going into 2017 and 2018.



Nicholas Sarwark

Thank you to all of the Libertarian Party candidates who took time away from their work and family to give people a chance to vote for a candidate who supports their right to live their life however they choose instead of old-party candidates fighting over who will use government to tell them how to live.

Thank you to all of the donors, campaign advisors and treasurers, volunteers, and supporters who helped all of our candidates achieve record vote totals, up and down the ballot and all across the country this year. You are the driving force that keeps us all going.

The 2016 election returns are in, and the Libertarian Party did very well overall—even though not enough of our candidates won the offices they were running for. The hard work of our candidates and their supporters have secured ballot access in 37 states, a record for the Libertarian Party coming out of an election. This includes retaining party status in Oklahoma and Texas, and gaining major

Thank you...

party status in New Mexico, milestones which will save us from spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on petitioning in 2018. Every dollar that we don't have to spend on ballot-access petitioning can be used to grow the Libertarian Party and support our affiliates and candidates.

The Libertarian Party has experienced unprecedented growth this year. There are nearly twice as many members receiving this *LP News* as there were at the beginning of the year—members and supporters who have made the leap from the old parties. When you see them at state and local party events, make them feel welcome. There are a lot of people looking for a political home in the aftermath of this election.

The Libertarian National Committee is setting a budget for 2017 with a focus on continuing the growth in membership and fundraising from the 2016 election and on strengthening and building up those state parties that need help before the 2018 election cycle. In places like Ohio, where the Republicans cheated to kick the Libertarian Party off the ballot, we're coming back to make sure that every American has a Libertarian option all the time, not just in a presidential-election year.

As you celebrate the holidays, enjoy the time with your friends and family. Show them who Libertarians are, by being kind and loving during this season. Make sure they know who we are; we never know who is looking for a new political home. Consider as you celebrate what you can do for liberty in 2017 and 2018. If you can run for office, or recruit someone else to run for office, or help a candidate who is willing to step up, please do so.

Our party remains the fastest-growing political party in the country, with a permanent national headquarters, energetic candidates and activists, and renewed optimism. With your help, we have a bright future in 2017 and beyond.

Yours in liberty,



DONOR

APPRECIATION

The following individual became a Beacon of Liberty contributor:

Irwin Jungreis



The following individuals became Pioneer of Freedom contributors:

Charles Schumann

Brian Thomson

Margaret Thomson

The following individuals became Lifetime Founder contributors:

Ian Damon

Natasha Gerlova

Cliff Godwin

Dorothy Larson

Cormack Lawler

Steven Opat

Andrew Weldon

The Libertarian Party grants lifetime membership to individuals who contribute at least \$1,500 during any 12-month period. Call 202-333-0008 to find out how much more you would need to donate to become a Lifetime Member today.

David F. Nolan Memorial Office Fund donors

Advocate of Liberty: Deron Johnson

Plaques are now on display at the Libertarian National Committee office space in Alexandria, Va., that recognize our top donors. To have your name appear on a plaque, or if you'd just like to help pay off the mortgage, mail in your donation or visit LP.org.

Contribute today: LP.org/office-fund

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The Libertarian Party (LP) and its state affiliates work to advance the right of individuals to be free, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal rights of others. The party runs candidates for public office, elects Libertarians, supports and opposes ballot measures, lobbies, and takes positions on public policy aimed at removing, reducing, and nullifying government laws, regulations, prohibitions, taxes, spending, debt, and foreign interventions.

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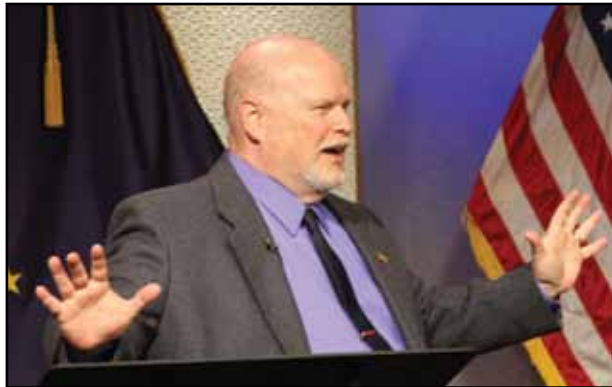
McDermott for U.S. House in Alaska gets 10 percent of vote

Jim McDermott received 10.4 percent of the vote in his race for the U.S. House in Alaska in a four-way race, one of the highest results ever for a Libertarian federal candidate running against a Democrat and a Republican.

This was McDermott's third time running for Alaska's only U.S. House seat. He received 5.2 percent of the vote when he ran in 2012, and 7.6 percent when he ran in 2014, demonstrating that repeat runs for office can build name recognition and increase votes.

McDermott ran on a platform of opening up immigration by allowing more work visas, ending the "drug war" by regulating drugs in the same manner alcohol is regulated, and ending subsidies to foreign nations. He also aims to remove unnecessary federal laws and to stop taxpayer funding of crony capitalists.

Incumbent Republican Don Young won re-election with 49.7 percent of the vote. Democrat Steve Lindbeck received 37.2 percent. •



Jim McDermott speaking at a candidate forum

Ranked-choice voting win in Maine a huge victory for LP

by Bill Redpath

On Nov. 8, in an important vote for third parties and independent candidates across the nation, Maine voters passed Question 5 and became the first state in the nation to adopt ranked-choice voting (RCV) for state and federal elections.

Under the new law, ranked-choice voting will take effect in Maine in 2018 for primary and general elections for U.S. senate, congress, governor, state senate, and state representative.

Maine Question 5 passed by a vote of 383,660 (52 percent) to 354,351 (48 percent). Question 5 was endorsed by both the Libertarian Party of Maine and the Libertarian National Committee. It was also endorsed by over 500 civic, business, labor, and faith leaders and organizations, the League of Women Voters and newspapers across Maine.

The reason for the importance of this initiative to the Libertarian Party is that RCV ends the so-called "wasted vote syndrome" and the accusation that candidates other than those of the two older parties are "spoilers."

On a ranked-choice ballot, voters rank as many of the candidates as they want, from their favorite to their least favorite. Voters can choose to not rank some candidates at all. If one candidate receives an outright majority as voters' first choice, he or she wins. If no candidate receives a majority, the candidate with the fewest first-choice votes is eliminated, and voters who had ranked that candidate first will have their vote instantly reassigned to their second-choice candidate. This process repeats until one candidate reaches a majority of non-exhausted votes. (An exhausted vote is a ballot on which all candidates that were ranked have been eliminated.)

Where it has been used, RCV has reduced negative campaigning, because it requires candidates to appeal to a broader range of voters (in the attempt to earn second-



choice and third-choice votes, which might be necessary to win election), and because it allows candidates from outside the two older parties to better compete. Under such a voting system, it is likely that LP candidates would receive much more "earned" media and be included in more debates, because of a perception that many more voters would consider voting for them.

"Maine people have exercised their right to change the way we elect our leaders," said RCV for Maine Campaign Manager Kyle Bailey. "Question 5 levels the playing field for candidates with the best ideas and gives more choice and more voice to voters, so you never have to vote for the lesser of two evils."

"The adoption of Ranked Choice Voting in Maine marks a dramatic step forward for American democracy," said FairVote Executive Director Rob Richie, "Maine's groundbreaking victory promises to inspire other states to embrace this better system."

Voters in Benton County, Oregon also passed a Ranked Choice Voting initiative on Nov. 8. Approval of Measure 2-100 made the county the first in Oregon to use RCV. The measure won by 54 percent to 46 percent. •

Bill Redpath, former LNC Chairman and six-time candidate for public office, is treasurer of FairVote and an advocate of electoral reform.

Jessica Abbott wins majority in Virginia city council race



Abbott speaking at Thalia Civic League's candidates forum in Virginia Beach

Libertarian Jessica Abbott won an impressive 59 percent of the vote in a nonpartisan race for Virginia Beach City Council, in Virginia. Her primary opponent won 40.5 percent of the vote, and a write-in candidate won the remainder.

Abbott's well-crafted campaign website, *JessicaPAbbott.com*, articulates her credentials and her vision for the city.

"It's important to have a member on City Council with a background in finance, insurance and flooding who can lead the way on maintaining our financial stability, crafting budgets and understanding our unique coastal flooding

situation," she wrote at her website. "I have LUTCF and FSCP financial designations and I'm a FEMA/NFIP certified flood agent."

She points out that city spending has grown 90 percent over the last decade, while median household income has been flat.

"Families always learn how to make ends meet with what they have, and the city needs to follow your lead and do the same," she wrote. "I pledge to take no action on City Council that will diminish the discretionary spending of your household."

Abbott opposes a proposal for a \$343

million, 3.5-mile extension of the light rail system from Norfolk, Va. to the Virginia Beach town center.

In a nonbinding referendum on Nov. 8, voters of Virginia Beach rejected the proposal. The city council, of which Abbott is now a member, will decide whether to abide by the will of the voters and kill the project.

Abbott advocates the use of bodycams for police officers: "I will strive for each police officer to wear a body camera at all times in order to keep both our officers and our community safe and transparent." •

Starr lowers taxes, vying for seat on Oxnard City Council

by Sandra Kallander

Aaron Starr may have won a seat on the Oxnard City Council in Calif., coming in second in a field of 11 candidates for two open seats (final vote count pending), a development that the *Ventura County Star* called “awkward.” That’s because Starr is being sued by the city over a measure on the same ballot.

Starr authored Measure M, which the voters passed with a whopping 72 percent approval. Measure M rolls back the



Aaron Starr

87 percent increase in sewer taxes that the Oxnard City Council enacted in January without voter approval.

Starr campaigned simultaneously for Measure M and for his own race in the crowded field. The only incumbent running came in first, with 21.8 percent, followed by Starr with, 15.4 percent.

A past chair of the California LP and former treasurer of the LNC, Starr is a well-known critic of the Oxnard City Council as well as the primary engine behind Measure M. The City’s lawsuit was on pause pending the outcome of the election, and now will likely move forward unless the new Council, including Starr, works something out, or decides to drop it.

Starr filed signatures to put the tax roll-back on the ballot in March, and the city filed the lawsuit to stop it. A judge ruled they must see whether the voters would pass the measure before proceeding with the case. The city’s suit alleges that the proposed initiative is unlawful in part because it impairs an essential government service.

Starr’s imminent addition to the council has resulted in a shift in tone, if not attitude. Three days after Election Day, as votes were still being counted, the *Ventura County Star* interviewed each of his soon-to-be co-council members. Each one was tactful, insisting that it wasn’t necessary to agree on everything, offering statements like, “It’s not personal” (referring to the

suit), or pointing out the advantages to having Starr join the council.

One incumbent referred to Starr as “a guy who knows numbers,” and Councilwoman Carmen Ramirez, who was reported to oppose Starr’s wish to privatize city services, nevertheless said she would “give him the benefit of the doubt and hope he has the best interest of the entire city and of public health in mind.”

The paper reported Starr’s own hopes for the future: “Starr said the four on the council will realize he’s easier to work with than they imagined.”

Even Mayor Tim Flynn, who had just been re-elected, is reported to have said nice things: Starr “has a completely different view of government than the average person. But that isn’t to say that his perspective won’t make government better,” Flynn said. “He’s more along the line of privatization. He comes from a perspective of less is more, less is better. And so do I, at times.”

Mayor Flynn blamed the very high turnout against the 87 percent tax hike not on Starr but on the city’s poor job of informing voters.

Starr actively raised funds, put out hundreds of yard signs, and spoke at voter forums and before the city council. He publicized his campaigns at *MovingOxnardForward.org*, a Moving Oxnard Forward Facebook page, *StarrForOxnard.com*, and the Aaron Starr for Oxnard City Council Facebook page. •

Thinking of running for office?

It’s not too early to plan your run for 2017 or 2018.

Visit:
 **LP.org/
run-for-office**

and send us your inquiry.

You’ll receive information you need to get started, file your campaign, comply with your state’s election laws, and get on the ballot.

Small-government activism propels Grifoni’s successful bid for City Council

Libertarian Jared Grifoni, who has fought for low taxes, repeal of regulations, and home rule in the southern Florida city of Marco Island, was the first-place finisher among eight candidates, winning one of four seats up for grabs on the nonpartisan city council. He finished at 18.7 percent.

The centerpiece of Grifoni’s campaign was his five-point “Pledge for Marco Island,” in which he promised to keep more money in citizens’ pockets, protect property rights, improve the city council’s relationship with the Collier County and Florida state governments, introduce sunset provisions for controversial ordinances, and make council meetings more accessible to the public.

A lawyer and a small business owner, Grifoni won the crucial endorsement of the *Naples Daily News*. The newspaper noted his commitment to protecting pri-

vate property rights, his fiscal conservatism, and “his commitment to more transparent government and a desire to further increase public engagement.”

Among his battles, Grifoni succeeded in blocking an attempt to adopt rental ordinances that would have required property owners to have special permits and pass inspections; and, in his words, would have converted the city council into “rental police.”

He argued against a local tax hike, saying that the government should reduce its debt and stop spending on unnecessary projects that increase taxes and make living on the island less affordable.

Grifoni defended local small businesses from additional and unnecessary new city regulations that would have increased costs and created uncertainty in the market.

“I have consistently fought... for greater home rule powers for municipalities to

protect our children from Common Core, to protect our Second Amendment rights, and for additional control for our local boards,” he said. “I believe that government is most responsive that is closest to the people.”

The Nov. 8 election marks a second big win for the Collier County Libertarian in less than a year.

Last December, Grifoni successfully led an effort to defend Uber and other ride-sharing services from excessive government regulations, and ended up convincing the Board of County Commissioners to eliminate all special licenses and regulations for the taxi industry; their vote was 4-1.

On local television news station NBC2, Grifoni said of his success, “The reality is—and history has shown this time and time again—that people know what’s best for themselves.” •



Jared Grifoni

Ballot measures yield gains, losses for liberty

For better or for worse, voters across the country approved or rejected 162 statewide ballot measures on Election Day.

Joining Colorado, Washington, Alaska, and Oregon, voters in Nevada, Massachusetts, Maine, and California ended their state's prohibition on cannabis.

In another four states—Florida, Arkansas, Montana, and North Dakota—voters legalized medicinal marijuana.

"Voters across America have once again proven that cannabis legalization is not only a moral imperative, it's also extremely popular public policy."

—David Bienenstock, Head of Content for *High Times Magazine*

David Bienenstock, Head of Content at *High Times Magazine*, said on election night, "Voters across America have once again proven that cannabis legalization is not only a moral imperative, it's also extremely popular public policy. No longer can our elected officials defend the government's self-destructive and utterly failed War on

Marijuana. This is a huge win for public safety, civil rights, personal liberty and sound governance, brought to you by a true grassroots movement that had to fight for decades against both major political parties, the corporate media, Big Pharma, and the rest of the establishment to bring about this historic change."

Andy Williams, co-founder of Medicine Man Technologies, a cannabis-industry consulting firm, said, "After a banner election, the cannabis industry is poised for exponential growth across several new markets. People have voiced their opinion in support of sensible policy reform, and soon millions of new patients and consumers will have access to safely produced and tested cannabis products."

In two major victories for the Libertarian Party, Ranked Choice Voting won in Maine (see article, p. 3) and voters rejected "Top Two" open primary elections in South Dakota. Its defeat marks the third consecutive failed attempt to pass top-two by referendum in the last six years.

Top-two open (or "blanket") primaries allow only the first-place and second-place vote-getters to advance to the general-election ballot, making it extremely difficult for Libertarians to compete in fall elections—except in districts with "safe seats" where incumbents are entrenched. Residents continue to suffer from top-two primaries in California and Washington, where voters passed the law

Defeat of Top Two in South Dakota marks the third consecutive failed attempt to pass the law by referendum in the last six years.

before there was widespread understanding of its devastating effects.

Some key statewide ballot-measure wins and losses for liberty are listed beneath this article. •



Legal marijuana edibles

LIBERTY VICTORIES

Elections: Ranked-choice voting passed in Maine (see article, p. 3).
Top Two primary elections defeated in South Dakota.

Drug War: Recreational marijuana became legal in Nevada and Massachusetts.
Recreational marijuana in Arizona remains illegal, which *would* have been a loss of freedom, except that it was a crony-capitalist measure.
Reclassification of drug possession as misdemeanor passed in Oklahoma.
Medicinal marijuana legalized in Arkansas, Florida, and North Dakota, and expanded in Montana.

Gun rights: Anti-gun law defeated in Maine.

Taxation: Sales-tax increase defeated in Oklahoma.
Tax increase on businesses with more than \$25 million in annual sales defeated in Oregon.

Health care: Single-payer health-care law defeated in Colorado.

Personal liberty: The right to medical aid in dying passed in Colorado.
Mandate to use condoms in pornographic films defeated in California.

LIBERTY LOSSES

Elections: Constitutional amendments are now far more difficult to get onto the ballot in Colorado, because of a measure that passed.
Taxpayer subsidies and regulations on political campaigns passed in South Dakota.

Drug War: Recreational marijuana became legal in California, which would have been a freedom victory, except that it introduced harsh restrictions on medicinal marijuana. The California LP opposed the measure.

Gun rights: Anti-gun laws passed in three states: Washington, California, and Nevada.

Taxation: Tax increase on individuals who earn \$200,000 or more passed in Maine.

Economy: Minimum-wage laws (price-fixing of wages) won in Arizona, Colorado, Maine, and Washington; plus, a referendum to overturn the state legislature's reduction of the minimum wage passed in South Dakota, forcing employers to pay above-market wages.

Justice: Repeal of the death penalty defeated in California and Nebraska.
A constitutional amendment allowing the death penalty won in Oklahoma.

Miller places second for U.S. Senate in Alaska, ahead of Democrat

In a state with fluid party alliances, Joe Miller won a record 29.5 percent of the vote running on the Libertarian ticket in a six-way race for U.S. Senate in Alaska, coming in second, ahead of Democrat Ray Metcalfe, who garnered 11.1 percent of the vote. Incumbent Republican Lisa Murkowski won with 44.3 percent; independent candidate Margaret Stock received 13.7 percent; and two other candidates received less than one percent.

This is the highest Libertarian vote percentage for a federal candidate—House or Senate—in the Libertarian Party's history, including in two-way races.

Party allegiance among the state's U.S. Senate candidates has been anything but conventional.

Miller ran on the Republican ticket for U.S. Senate in 2010 and 2014. As a "tea party" favorite, he beat Murkowski

in the 2010 primary election. She subsequently mounted a successful write-in campaign in the general election, beating Miller and Democrat Scott McAdams.

Murkowski is viewed as a moderate by conservatives, often siding with Democrats on issues.

Meanwhile Metcalfe, the Democrat, is a former Republican state legislator who founded his own party, the Republican Moderates. He supported Sen. Bernie Sanders for the Democratic nomination for president this year.

Miller accepted the LP's nomination this year after Cean Stevens dropped out of the race.

Miller's campaign platform included repealing Obamacare and opposing threats to gun rights, which are Libertarian issues in common with many Republicans. •

TOP U.S. SENATE PERCENTAGES

State	Candidate	Votes	Percent
AK	Joe Miller	74,245	29.5%
IN	Lucy Brenton	149,365	5.5%
KS	Robert D. Garrard	63,428	5.5%
GA	Allen Buckley	159,914	4.2%
AR	Frank Gilbert	43,720	4.0%
PA	Edward Clifford	230,562	3.9%
NC	Sean Haugh	165,319	3.6%
CO	Lily Tang Williams	88,303	3.5%
IL	Kent McMillan	172,068	3.2%
ND	Robert Marquette	10,521	3.1%
OK	Robert T. Murphy	43,345	3.0%
WI	Phil Anderson	87,291	3.0%

Record endorsements for Libertarian Party candidates

by Sandra Kallander

Breaking through an invisible barrier for Libertarian presidential candidates, Gov. Gary Johnson in 2016 won the party its first-ever endorsement from a newspaper of record.

But this wasn't just one editorial board flouting tradition. Across the country, nine major newspapers endorsed 2016's arguably most qualified ticket of Libertarian Govs. Johnson and William Weld—more than wound up endorsing Donald J. Trump, now president-elect.

In addition to the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* and the *Winston-Salem Journal*, which *LP News* reported in an earlier issue, the *Caledonian-Record* (N.H./Vt.), *Chicago Tribune*, *Daily Sun News* (Wash.), the *Danville Register & Bee* (Va.), the *Detroit News*, *New Hampshire Union-Leader*, and the *Post and Courier* (Charleston, S.C.) endorsed either Johnson or the Libertarian ticket, with vice-presidential candidate William Weld.

The *Chicago Tribune's* Sept. 30 endorsement of the Johnson-Weld ticket cited Democrat Hillary Clinton's "intent to greatly increase federal spending and taxation, and serious questions about honesty and trust," and concluded that Republican Donald Trump "has neither the character nor the prudent disposition for the job."

In setting out their argument for Johnson-Weld, they wrote, "Libertarians Gary Johnson of New Mexico and running mate William Weld of Massachusetts are agile, practical and, unlike the major-party candidates, experienced at managing governments. They offer an agenda that appeals

not only to the *Tribune's* principles but to those of the many Americans who say they are socially tolerant but fiscally responsible."

Addressing the "wasted vote" argument, they wrote, "We offer this endorsement to encourage voters who want to feel comfortable with their choice. Who want to vote for someone they can admire." Of Johnson: "Every American who casts a vote for him is standing for principles—and can be proud of that vote. Yes, proud of a candidate in 2016."

The *New Hampshire Union-Leader* printed a letter by one of their retired editors, who wrote, "This 2016 election is a disaster no matter who wins the presidency. If America is to do better in 2020, the fight starts now. A vote for Johnson is not merely a protest against two unworthy candidates, it's a statement of opposition to the corrupt and failed two-party system that nominated them."

The first major American newspaper to endorse Donald Trump, the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, didn't do so until Oct. 24, and by then, *Reason*, *Mother Jones*, the *Hill*, and others were keeping score, noting that Gary Johnson had, from the start, more high-profile newspaper endorsements than had Trump.

Trump scored another three "reluctant" and "in spite of all his faults" endorsements at the last minute on Nov. 6, to finally approximate the number of endorsements given with more enthusiasm to the Libertarians.

Several of the newspapers continued to justify their endorsements in subsequent ed-

itorials through Election Day, with the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* doing so four times.

Down-ticket endorsements

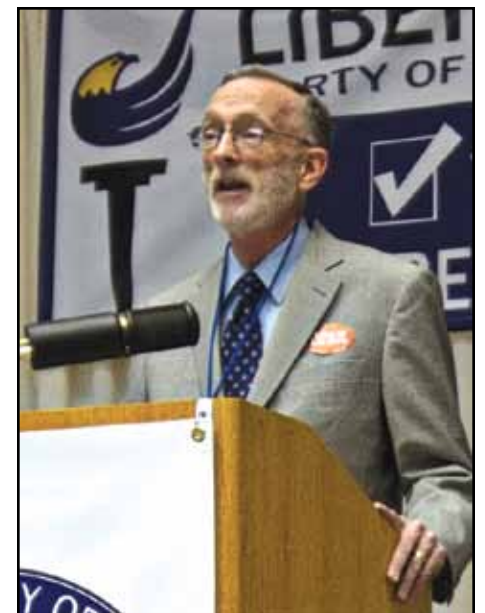
Mark Miller, running for Texas Railroad Commission (the agency which oversees oil and gas) was endorsed by, among others, the top four newspapers in Texas, including the *Houston Chronicle*, *Dallas Morning News*, *San Antonio Express-News*, *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*, and Fort Worth's *Star-Telegram*.

The *Corpus Christi Caller-Times* wrote, "Mark Miller's candidacy for a seat on the Texas Railroad Commission is a prime example why voters should never pull the lever just for their preferred political party."

Miller's endorsements may well have brought in enough extra votes to secure ballot access through 2018 for the Texas LP. He needed five percent of the vote, and ended with 5.3 percent.

Michelle Darnell's campaign for the Washington State House of Representatives, 48th District, was endorsed by the Republican candidate for governor, Bill Bryant; the GOP candidate for Lt. Governor, Marty McClendon; a former state supreme court justice; and several other candidates and officials. Citizen's Alliance for Property Rights rated her "outstanding," and Gun Owners Action League of Washington gave her their endorsement.

Magician and comedian Penn Jillette "tweeted" his Libertarian endorsement to his fans: "Thomas Simmons for US Congress - Hey my hometown of Greenfield, MA — there's a groovy libertarian running



John Buckley, running for West Virginia secretary of state, was endorsed by the *Charleston Daily Mail*.

for ya!," followed by Simmons's campaign web address. It was retweeted 45 times. Simmons also earned a 100% rating by Gun Owners Action League and an "A" rating from Gun Owners of America.

John Buckley, candidate for West Virginia Secretary of State, was endorsed by the *Charleston Gazette-Mail*, the daily newspaper of the largest city in West Virginia, citing his experience and ideas for improving elections. The paper saw an advantage to his party affiliation, saying, "As a third-party candidate, he would take the job seriously and not allow politics to in-

...continued on page 19

ELECTION WINNERS

State	Candidate	Office
AZ	Ruth Bennett	Continental Elementary School District Board (re-elected)
CA	Jonathan Hall	Tehachapi Cummings Water District Board (re-elected)
CA	Brian Holtz	Purissima Hills Water District Board (re-elected)
CA	Wallace Stewart	Vista Fire Protection District Board
CA	Susan Marie Weber	Palm Desert City Council (re-elected)
FL	Matthew Bymaster	Palm Beach County Soil and Water Conservation 2
FL	Jared Grifoni	Marco Island City Council
IN	Susan J. Bell	Town Judge, Hagerstown (re-elected)
KY	Mitch Rushing	Jefferson County Commissioner B
MI	Elizabeth Corder	Ypsilanti Township Parks Commissioner
MN	Maynard Meyer	Madison Mayor (re-elected)
MN	Cara Schulz	Burnsville City Council
NE	Ben Backus	Gering City Council
TX	Larry Bush	Jarrell Mayor (re-elected)
VA	Jessica Abbott	Virginia Beach City Council

TOP U.S. HOUSE VOTE PERCENTAGES

State	Candidate	Votes	Percent	Opponents
AK	Jim McDermott	25,104	10.1%	Ran against BOTH Democrat and Republican
WV	Zane Lawhorn	16,777	8.2%	
KS	Steven A. Hohe	26,897	8.0%	
TN	David Ross	20,241	7.1%	
ND	Jack Seaman	23,454	7.0%	
IN	Pepper Snyder	19,782	6.9%	
CO	Michael McRedmond	24,320	6.8%	
KS	James Houston Bales	18,700	6.4%	
OK	Zachary Knight	17,084	6.1%	
CO	Richard Longstreth	25,858	5.8%	
IN	Russell Brookbank	17,417	5.4%	
MS	Ric McCluskey	14,212	5.3%	
TX	Scott Ballard	14,638	5.2%	
MO	Benjamin T. Brixey	17,076	5.1%	
AR	Kerry Hicks	61,075	25.1%	Ran against ONE Democrat or ONE Republican
AR	Mark West	56,701	23.6%	
AR	Steve Isaacson	63,793	22.7%	
TX	Ken Ashby	37,311	19.4%	
TX	Ed Rankin	43,297	19.0%	
IN	Donna Dunn	47,009	18.5%	
TX	Jeffrey Blunt	29,023	15.5%	

TOP STATE VOTE PERCENTAGES

Governor			
State	Candidate	Votes	Percent
NH	Max Abramson	31,099	4.2%
ND	Marty Riske	13,191	3.9%
MT	Ted Dunlap	16,792	3.3%
IN	Rex Bell	86,499	3.2%
UT	Brian Kamerath	24,740	2.9%

Statewide, nongubernatorial

State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Percent
GA	Public Service Commissioner	Eric Hoskins	1,195,300	33.3%
WA	Attorney General	Joshua Trumbull	823,741	32.1%
MI	Michigan Supreme Court	Kerry Lee Morgan	447,166	13.0%
WV	Commissioner of Agriculture	Buddy Guthrie	67,960	10.3%

State Legislature with both Democrat and Republican opponents

State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Percent
RI	State House 69	Analee Berretto	794	15.0%
KS	State House 71	Joey Frazier	1,188	13.0%
IN	State House 41	John Pickerill	3,033	11.3%
HI	State House 19	Anthony Higa	1,173	11.2%
IA	State House 20	Bob Boyle	1,497	10.9%
OR	State House 1	Tamie Kaufman	3,471	10.3%
WV	House of Delegates 32	Travis Sims	1,766	10.0%
CO	State House 17	Susan Quilleash	2,054	9.0%
UT	State House 35	Chelsea Travis	680	8.7%
ID	State House 11 B	John Charles Smith	1,656	8.6%
OR	State House 30	Kyle Markley	2,400	8.4%
CO	State House 28	Matthew Hess	3,253	8.3%
CO	State House 63	Joe Johnson	3,600	8.2%
MN	State House 37A	Brian McCormick	1,647	8.2%
IA	State House 45	Eric Cooper	1,252	8.0%
KS	State House 86	James Pruden	439	8.0%
UT	State House 16	Brent Zimmerman	760	7.8%
CO	State House 18	Norman "Paotie" Dawson	2,896	7.4%
IA	State House 97	David Melchert	1,245	7.4%
OK	State House 81	Steve Long	1,223	7.4%
HI	State House 24	Michelle Tippens	659	7.3%
IA	State House 49	John Evans	1,100	7.2%
KS	State Senate 21	Mike Kerner	2,534	7.2%
MT	State House 43	Josh Daniels	299	7.2%
OK	State House 87	Elle Collins	979	7.2%

Record-breaking year

...continued from page 1

dia coverage, including nine newspaper endorsements (see article, p. 6), as it had at any time in the party's history.

588 Libertarians ran for federal office, governor, and other statewide offices, state legislature, and scores of local offices. Nine Libertarians were newly elected and six were re-elected.

Big jump in votes for Libertarian federal candidates

The Libertarian party made impressive gains in vote totals for federal candidates.

At least 1,671,091 votes were cast for Libertarian U.S. House candidates in 2016. This is a 73 percent increase over the votes cast in 2014 for the same number of candidates.

Part of this increase can be attributed to the fact that 2016 was a presidential election year with higher turnout. But that cannot account for a 73 percent increase.

In 2000, also a presidential election year, U.S. House candidates received an average of 7,157 votes. This year, they received an average of 13,697 votes.

Joe Miller in Alaska blew away the party's high mark for a percentage in a U.S. Senate race, winning 29.6 percent and coming in second, ahead of the Democrat in the race (see article, p. 6). This is the first time any Libertarian nominee for either house of Congress has ever outpolled a major-party nominee. Only a handful of Libertarians have

won double digits in a U.S. Senate race in the party's history.

Fifteen Libertarian candidates for U.S. Senate received 2.1 percent of the vote or higher, up from twelve in 2014 and five in 2012.

Libertarian U.S. House candidates are reaching new highs for vote percentages in races that include both a Democrat and a Republican. Jim McDermott got 10.1 percent in Alaska; Zane Lawhorn received 8.2 percent in West Virginia; and Steven A. Hohe received 8.0 percent in Kansas. The highest for any such candidate in 2014 was 7.7 percent, and in 2012 it was 6.6 percent.

These increases show that voters are now more willing to cast a Libertarian vote, even in the face of accusations that they are causing a Democrat or Republican to lose when both are in the race.

National LP donors top 20,000

Dues-paying party membership and donors to the Libertarian Party have passed the 20,000 mark, returning to a level not seen since Sept. 2005.

As of Oct. 31, there were 20,170 active donors to the Libertarian Party. This is up by 42 percent since Dec. 2015, when there were 11,693.

Among the active donors, 18,327 have signed the party's Non-Aggression Pledge, making them official party members.

One new member, Carlos Sierra, of El Paso, Texas, wrote via e-mail:

“Words cannot express my gratitude for you all ‘adopting’ me into the Libertarian world of politics. It was my first time, and I couldn’t have been more proud to *not* support the nominee of the two major parties.

"I have helped Democrats and Republicans in the past, but I have never witnessed the passion you Libertarians have—and I love it! You all have a longtime friend in me."

Longtime LP member Irwin Jungreis said, “Every four years since I joined in 1988, I’ve gotten my hopes up that this is the year we’d have a breakthrough with our presidential candidate, and every year we ended up doing the same. This year, we finally made progress. Four million votes! Triple our previous high! Liberty in my lifetime is starting to sound like a realistic goal.” •



**Gov. Gary Johnson and his family on election night
in Albuquerque, N.M.**

Big ballot-access wins

...continued from page 1

vote. Otherwise, about 45,000 signatures would have been needed to get the party back onto the ballot.

LP **Kentucky** is a recognized party for the first time, with Gary Johnson getting over 2 percent. This effectively eliminates the need to collect 5,000 signatures for statewide office and 400 signatures for U.S. House candidates.

LP **New Hampshire** is a recognized party for the first time in two decades, thanks to governor candidate Max Abramson's exceeding 4 percent. This removes the signature-collection requirement.

The **District of Columbia** LP is recognized for only the second time, with candidate for Delegate to the U.S. House Martin Moulton getting over 17,000 votes, significantly reducing the burden of petitioning.

The LP retained ballot access in **North Dakota**, with both Gary Johnson and governor candidate Marty Riske getting over 5 percent of the vote, removing the requirement to collect 7,000 signatures.

LP New Mexico became a major party for the first time because of Johnson's garnering over 5 percent of the vote, significantly reducing the number of signatures needed to get Libertarians on the ballot.

In **Connecticut**, Libertarians Dan Reale for U.S. House in the second congressional district, Richard Lion for U.S. Senate, and Gary Johnson for President each received over 1 percent of the vote. As a result, the party will not have to petition for these offices. Without ballot access, 7,500 signatures for president and for U.S. Senate would have been required.

West Virginia retained ballot access for four years, thanks to David Moran's receiv-

ing over 2 percent in his race for governor, removing the need to collect about 7,500 signatures to regain ballot access.

Iowa is a recognized party for the first time ever with Gary Johnson's getting over 2 percent. "Libertarian" will appear as a choice when voters register, and the number of signatures needed to put Libertarian candidates for governor and U.S. House on the ballot drops significantly.



Massachusetts is a recognized party again with Gary Johnson's getting over 3 percent. "Libertarian" will appear as a choice when voters register.

Wyoming retained party status for two years because U.S. House candidate Lawrence Struempf received over 2 percent of the vote. Libertarians will not need to petition to get on the ballot.

Hawaii retained party status for ten years because Libertarians for state senate received more than four percent of the votes cast for all state senate seats.

The LP easily retained ballot access in the following states: Alaska, Arizona, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Vermont, and Wisconsin. Access in Maine is unsettled at the time of this writing.

The party already had secured ballot access through 2018 in Colorado, Indiana, Nebraska, Utah, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Missouri.

The LP has ballot access in California, although it is hampered in its access to the general election ballot by a “top-two open primary” law, which is also in effect in Washington. •

Libertarian Party 2016 Election Results

State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
AK	US Senate	Joe Miller	74,245	29.5%
AK	US House	Jim McDermott	25,104	10.1%
AR	US Senate	Frank Gilbert	43,720	4.0%
AR	US House 1	Mark West	56,701	23.6%
AR	US House 2	Chris Haynes	14,287	4.7%
AR	US House 3	Steve Isaacson	63,793	22.7%
AR	US House 4	Kerry Hicks	61,075	25.1%
AR	State Senate 26	Elvis Presley	5,701	21.3%
AR	State Senate 32	Jacob Mosier	9,340	25.0%
AR	State House 3	Cecil Anderson	156	1.6%
AR	State House 15	Wayne Willems	2,001	17.0%
AR	State House 29	Glen Schwarz	1,077	13.6%
AR	State House 33	Michael Williams	2,678	22.0%
AR	State House 44	Garry Baker	2,056	18.2%
AR	State House 61	Christopher Olson	467	4.2%
AR	State House 77	Stephen Edwards	3,027	29.9%
AR	State House 95	Grant Brand	3,181	24.1%
AR	State House 96	Michael Kalagias	2,908	28.6%
AR	State House 99 (special election)	Richard Bernard	1,727	17.9%
AR	Benton Co. Constable Dist. 5	Jacob Faught	1,969	22.9%
AR	Benton Co. Judge	Ronnie Smith	23,522	25.9%
AR	Cleburne Co. Justice of the Peace Dist. 5	Justin Lillard	204	19.9%
AR	Pulaski Co. Sheriff	Patrick Mulligan	26,696	18.0%
AR	Saline Co. Justice of the Peace Dist. 1	Doug Harris	677	19.7%
AR	Saline Co. Justice of the Peace Dist. 8	Carl Wikstrom	199	4.5%
AR	Sebastian Co. Justice of the Peace Dist. 7	Whit Hyman	218	6.2%
AZ	Continental Elem. School Dist. Board	* Ruth Bennett (re-elected)		Unopposed
AZ	Justice of the Peace Dist. 16	Gregory Kelly	18,276	32.2%
CA	State Senate 33	Honor "Mimi" Robson	31,868	21.2%
CA	State Assembly 1	Donn Coenen	34,939	25.3%
CA	State Assembly 2	Kenneth Anton	30,918	26.2%
CA	State Assembly 51	Mike Everling	11,739	13.6%
CA	State Assembly 62	Baron Bruno	5,377	5.1%
CA	East Bay Reg. Park Dist. Ward 2	John Roberts	3,469	5.4%
CA	Fairfield City Council.	Brian Thiemer	6,795	16.0%
CA	Oxnard City Council.	Aaron Starr	12,796	14.8%
CA	Palm Desert City Council.	* Susan Marie Weber (re-elected)	6,504	21.1%
CA	Purissima Hills Water Dist. Board	* Brian Holtz (re-elected)		Unopposed
CA	Ramona School Board	John Rajcic	5,230	28.5%
CA	Sequoia Health Care Dist.	Lois Garcia	13,469	15.2%
CA	Sequoia Health Care Dist.	Harland Harrison	13,670	15.4%
CA	Tehachapi-Cummings Water Dist.	* Jonathan Hall (re-elected)	7,126	65%
CA	Vista Fire Protection Dist.	* Wallace Stewart		Unopposed
CO	US Senate	Lily Tang Williams	88,303	3.5%
CO	US House 1	Darrel Dinges	10,549	3.6%
CO	US House 2	Richard Longstreth	25,858	5.8%
CO	US House 3	Gaylon Kent	16,996	4.8%
CO	US House 4	Bruce Griffith	17,925	4.7%
CO	US House 5	Michael McRedmond	24,320	6.8%
CO	US House 6	Norm Olsen	17,102	4.9%

* Election winner

State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
CO	US House 7	Martin Buchanan	15,831	4.7%
CO	State Senate 12	Manuel Quintal	14,609	24.4%
CO	State Senate 19	Hans Romer	4,832	6.1%
CO	State Senate 29	Michele Poague	3,524	6.3%
CO	State Senate 35	William S. Bartley	2,344	2.0%
CO	State House 16	John Hjersman	10,071	28.0%
CO	State House 17	Susan Quilleash	2,054	9.0%
CO	State House 18	Norman "Paotie" Dawson	2,896	7.4%
CO	State House 20	Judith Darcy	2,361	5.8%
CO	State House 21	Michael Seebeck	7,644	31.1%
CO	State House 28	Matthew Hess	3,253	8.3%
CO	State House 33	Kim Tavendale	2,865	6.0%
CO	State House 50	Roy Dakroub	1,373	5.2%
CO	State House 54	Gilbert Fuller	8,270	22.8%
CO	State House 56	Kevin Gulbranson	2,682	5.9%
CO	State House 60	Glenn Ingalls	2,605	6.4%
CO	State House 63	Joe Johnson	3,600	8.2%
CT	US Senate	Richard Lion	17,002	1.2%
CT	US House 2	Dan Reale	4,999	1.5%
CT	State House 35	Austin Coco	195	1.5%
DC	Delegate to US House	Martin Moulton	17,272	6.0%
DC	City Council. at-large	Matt Klokkel	13,460	2.3%
DE	US House	Scott Gesty	6,436	1.5%
DE	Governor	Sean Goward	4,577	1.1%
DE	State House 7	Bob Wilson	909	9.9%
DE	State House 39	James Brittingham	637	8.7%
DE	Wilmington City Council. Dist. 5	Nadine Frost	163	6.9%
FL	US Senate	Paul Stanton	196,188	2.1%
FL	US House 2	Rob Lapham	9,384	2.7%
FL	State House 18	Ken Willey	14,957	18.3%
FL	State House 90	Artie Lurie	12,988	20.4%
FL	Bay Co. Comm. Dist. 2	James Morris	24,585	30.1%
FL	Hillsborough Co. Water Dist. 4	Joshua Knezinek	58,988	13.4%
FL	Marco Island City Council.	* Jared Grifoni	6,423	18.7%
FL	Monroe Co. State's Attorney	Shad Neiss	1,333	3.2%
FL	PBC Soil and Water Board Conservation Dist. Group 2	* Matthew Bymaster	241,369	53.7%
FL	PBC Soil and Water Board Conservation Dist. Group 4	Karl Dickey	145,749	33.0%
FL	Sebastian City Council.	Dale Doehling	1,817	9.8%
GA	US Senate	Allen Buckley	159,914	4.2%
GA	Public Service Commissioner	Eric Hoskins	1,195,300	33.3%
HI	US Senate	Michael Kokoski	6,350	1.6%
HI	US House 1	Alan Yim	6,127	3.3%
HI	State Senate 1	Kimberly Arianoff	1,816	10.4%
HI	State Senate 2	Fred Fogel	2,488	16.3%
HI	State Senate 10	Arnold Phillips	2,711	13.7%
HI	State Senate 11	Joseph Kent	791	3.7%
HI	State Senate 13	Harry Ozols	592	3.6%
HI	State Senate 15	Daniel Kalinowski	1,711	13.8%
HI	State House 3	Gregory Arianoff	813	8.9%
HI	State House 5	Michael Last	1,766	19.5%
HI	State House 19	Anthony Higa	1,173	11.2%
HI	State House 24	Michelle Tippens	659	7.3%
IA	US Senate	Chuck Aldrich	41,609	2.7%
IA	US House 3	Brian Jack Holder	15,337	3.9%

State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
IA	State Senate 6	Nick Serianni	4,039	16.6%
IA	State Senate 12	Don Brantz	5,507	21.6%
IA	State Senate 16	Christopher Whiteing	1,254	5.3%
IA	State Senate 28	Troy Hageman	1,645	5.5%
IA	State Senate 38	John George	1,806	5.9%
IA	State Senate 48	Brian Cook	1,229	2.9%
IA	State House 20	Bob Boyle	1,497	10.9%
IA	State House 31	Joe Gleason	794	6.1%
IA	State House 32	Seth Bartmess	464	4.4%
IA	State House 33	Jeremy Tomlinson	2,372	23.2%
IA	State House 35	Jocelyn Fry	2,055	24.0%
IA	State House 38	Jeff Meyers	610	2.6%
IA	State House 45	Eric Cooper	1,252	8.0%
IA	State House 49	John Evans	1,100	7.2%
IA	State House 70	Dave Cork	1,044	6.7%
IA	State House 78	Joshua Miller	2,785	21.5%
IA	State House 80	Garrett Byrd	496	3.5%
IA	State House 97	David Melchert	1,245	7.4%
IA	Guthrie Co. Hospital Trustee	Ed Wright	628	5.5%
IA	Jasper Co. Supervisor	Keith Laube	1,648	8.9%
IA	Linn Co. Sheriff	Rick Stewart	25,816	26.2%
ID	State Senate 29	Sierra Carta	1,159	6.9%
ID	State House 11	John Charles Smith	1,656	8.6%
ID	State House 23	Christopher Jenkins	895	6.3%
IL	US Senate	Kent McMillan	172,068	3.2%
IL	Comptroller	Claire Ball	182,306	3.0%
IN	US Senate	Lucy Brenton	149,365	5.5%
IN	US House 1	Donna Dunn	47,009	18.5%
IN	US House 2	Ron Cenkush	10,594	3.8%
IN	US House 3	Pepper Snyder	19,782	6.9%
IN	US House 4	Steven Mayoras	14,758	4.9%
IN	US House 5	Matt Wittlief	15,324	4.2%
IN	US House 6	Rich Turvey	12,325	4.2%
IN	US House 7	Drew Thompson	11,470	4.3%
IN	US House 8	Andrew Horning	13,630	4.6%
IN	US House 9	Russell Brookbank	17,417	5.4%
IN	Governor	Rex Bell	86,499	3.2%
IN	Lt. Governor	Karl Tatgenhorst	86,050	3.2%
IN	State Senate 10	Gerard Arthus	6,370	17.0%
IN	State Senate 20	Donald Rainwater	3,391	4.7%
IN	State Senate 24	Kevin Rogers	10,694	18.3%
IN	State Senate 30	Zach Roberts	2,564	3.5%
IN	State Senate 32	Shane Zoellner	2,170	4.0%
IN	State Senate 33	Jacob Leddy	5,167	10.8%
IN	State House 1	Michael Sandridge	2,242	12.6%
IN	State House 7	James Gillen	1,471	5.8%
IN	State House 19	Evan Demaree	1,288	4.1%
IN	State House 20	Aurea Torres	1,130	4.2%
IN	State House 21	Ethan Legg	1,048	4.9%
IN	State House 24	Erol Ali Cetinok	6,450	18.0%
IN	State House 25	Franklyn Vorhees	1,728	6.2%
IN	State House 41	John Pickerill	3,033	11.3%
IN	State House 53	Rick Brown	1,979	6.9%
IN	State House 54	Zachary Lee	6,605	27.1%
IN	State House 71	Thomas Keister	4,576	19.6%
IN	State House 86	Ethan Owens	1,487	4.1%
IN	State House 90	Douglas McNaughton	1,348	4.5%
IN	State House 95	Nate Ginn	2,640	12.7%

continued on page 10...

2016 Libertarian election results

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State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
IN	Johnson County Counc.	Rodney Benker	11,849	8.4%
IN	Johnson County Counc. At-Large	Damian Stanziano	10,068	7.1%
IN	Johnson County Counc. At-Large	Brian Thueme	11,161	7.9%
IN	Johnson County Treasurer	Jessica Hoyt	12,615	20.6%
IN	Marion County Treasurer	Chris Bowen	19,813	5.6%
IN	Center Township Adv. Board 4	Paul Copeland	1,427	18.6%
IN	Decatur Township Adv. Board 3	Jared Wales	521	24.1%
IN	Franklin Township Adv. Board 2	Justin Hutchinson	1,075	29.8%
IN	Warren Township Adv. Board 1	Michael Gunyon	667	7.8%
IN	Warren Township Adv. Board 4	Josh Featherstone	403	5.4%
IN	Washington Township Adv. Board 1	Lawrence Downes	551	5.2%
IN	Washington Township Adv. Board 4	Angela Fisher	1,046	7.2%
IN	Wayne Township Adv. Board 1	Jason Sipe	484	5.4%
IN	Hagerstown Judge *	Susan J. Bell	Unopposed	
KS	US Senate	Robert D. Garrard	63,428	5.5%
KS	US House 1	Kerry Burt	18,415	7.3%
KS	US House 2	James Houston Bales	18,700	6.4%
KS	US House 3	Steven A. Hohe	26,897	8.0%
KS	US House 4	Gordon J. Bakken	7,420	2.8%
KS	State Senate 6	Jason Conley	5,102	29.0%
KS	State Senate 21	Mike Kerner	2,534	7.2%
KS	State House 9	Patrick McMurry	1,948	24.0%
KS	State House 19	John Taube	783	6.0%
KS	State House 38	Frederic Cristopher	799	7.0%
KS	State House 71	Joey Frazier	1,188	13.0%
KS	State House 86	James Pruden	439	8.0%
KS	Magistrate Judge Dist. 15 Pos. 1	A. Daniel Gardner	104	7.4%
KY	State House 6	David Watson	972	4.4%
KY	Jefferson County Comm. B	* Mitch Rushing	68,726	96.0%
LA	US Senate	Thomas Clements	11,363	0.6%
LA	US Senate	Leroy Gilmond	4,063	0.2%
LA	US House 1	Howard Kearney	9,395	2.9%
LA	US House 3	Guy McClendon	2,934	0.9%
LA	US House 6	Richard Fontanesi	7,598	2.3%
LA	Baton Rouge City Counc. Dist. 7	Daniel Causey	1,844	14.6%
LA	Gonzales Counc. Member Division D	Wade Petit	768	18.5%
MA	US House 1	Thomas Simmons	27,427	8.6%
MD	US House 1	Matt Beers	14,207	4.2%
MD	US House 2	Kristin Kasprzak	12,530	4.5%
MD	US House 4	Ben Krause	5,274	1.8%

State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
MD	US House 5	Jason Summers	10,033	3.0%
MD	US House 6	David Howser	6,216	2.1%
MD	US House 8	Jasen Wunder	6,540	2.0%
MD	Baltimore Comptroller	Jon Bombach	24,974	12.4%
MD	Baltimore President of the Cty Counc.	Susan Gaztanaga	5,822	2.8%
MD	Baltimore Co. Circuit Court Judge	Leo Dymowski	81,380	18.7%
MI	US House 1	Diane Bostow	13,385	3.7%
MI	US House 2	Erwin Haas	8,166	2.4%
MI	US House 4	Leonard Schwartz	8,514	2.7%
MI	US House 5	Steve Sluka	6,999	2.2%
MI	US House 6	Lorence Wenke	16,239	4.9%
MI	US House 7	Ken Proctor	16,402	4.9%
MI	US House 8	Jeff Wood	9,615	2.6%
MI	US House 9	Matt Orlando	9,562	2.8%
MI	US House 10	Lisa Gioia	10,582	3.1%
MI	US House 11	Jonathan Osment	9,516	2.5%
MI	US House 12	Tom Bagwell	7,478	2.3%
MI	US House 13	Tiffany Hayden	9,600	3.7%
MI	US House 14	Greg Creswell	4,898	1.6%
MI	Board of Educ.	Scotty Boman	198,306	2.3%
MI	Board of Educ.	William (Bill) Hall	123,783	1.4%
MI	Michigan Supreme Court (partial term)	Kerry Lee Morgan	447,166	13.0%
MI	Michigan State U. Trustee	Justin Burns	174,289	2.1%
MI	Michigan State U. Trustee	Gregory Stempfle	114,634	1.4%
MI	U. of Michigan Regent	James Hudler	122,127	1.5%
MI	U. of Michigan Regent	John Jascob	125,518	1.5%
MI	Wayne State U. Governor	Bhagwan Dashairya	99,538	1.2%
MI	Wayne State U. Governor	Al Sedar	122,473	1.2%
MI	State House 10	Jeremy Morgan	1,357	3.4%
MI	State House 14	Loel Gnadt	1,639	4.8%
MI	State House 31	Michael Saliba	2,008	4.9%
MI	State House 37	Jim Young	1,742	3.6%
MI	State House 42	Jon Elgas	2,166	4.0%
MI	State House 47	Rodger Young	2,308	4.8%
MI	State House 51	Mark Sanborn	2,677	5.3%
MI	State House 60	Logan Fleckenstein	2,170	5.6%
MI	State House 61	Ryan Winfield	3,018	5.9%
MI	State House 62	Shelly Gregoire	1,658	4.5%
MI	State House 65	Ronald Musinski	2,055	4.9%
MI	State House 68	Rob Powell	2,132	5.5%
MI	State House 71	Marc Lord	1,449	3.0%
MI	State House 73	Ron Heeren	2,164	3.9%
MI	State House 74	William H. Gelineau	2,177	4.8%
MI	State House 76	John George	1,559	3.2%
MI	State House 80	Arnis Davidsons	1,990	4.5%
MI	State House 85	Roger Snyder	2,425	5.5%
MI	State House 86	Bill Gelineau	1,265	2.6%
MI	State House 87	Jay P. Gillotte	2,205	4.8%
MI	State House 89	Mary Buzuma	2,230	4.5%
MI	State House 91	Max Riekse	2,965	7.0%

State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
MI	State House 93	Tyler Palmer	2,427	5.1%
MI	State House 104	Kelly Clark	2,714	5.3%
MI	State House 106	Dana Carver	1,838	3.7%
MI	Genesee Co. Comm. Dist. 4	Cameron Martin	1,249	5.2%
MI	Genesee Co. Comm. Dist. 6	Dustin Reamer	1,248	5.2%
MI	Ingham Co. Comm. Dist. 10	Martin Mashon	431	5.2%
MI	Kalamazoo Co. Board Dist. 6	Michael Steffes	2,224	22.8%
MI	Kent Co. Clerk	James Lewis	16,015	5.5%
MI	Kent Co. Comm. Dist. 4	Nathan Hewer	1,000	5.9%
MI	Livingston Co. Comm.	John Hargenrader	1,780	17.6%
MI	Livingston Co. Comm.	Jim Schell	1,844	22.7%
MI	Macomb Co. Comm. Dist. 12	James Miller	1,603	5.4%
MI	Muskegon Co. Prosecutor	Jeffrey Greve	13,292	21.0%
MI	Oakland Co. Comm. Dist. 19	Jim Fulner	1,740	5.5%
MI	Oakland Co. Prosecutor	Steve Afton	27,149	4.3%
MI	Wayne Co. Prosecutor	David Afton	105,732	15.8%
MI	Plymouth Township Trustee	Joseph LeBlanc	3,625	8.6%
MI	Ypsilanti Township Parks Comm.	* Elizabeth Corder	4,719	5.1%
MI	Ypsilanti Township Parks Comm.	Lawrence W. Johnson	4,163	4.5%
MI	Ypsilanti Township Parks Comm.	Kalyn Sterzik	3,888	4.2%
MN	State Senate 14	Steven Zilberg	2,023	5.4%
MN	State Senate 19	Shane Wernsing	2,798	6.8%
MN	State Senate 33	Jay Nygard	3,080	6.0%
MN	State House 37A	Brian McCormick	1,647	8.2%
MN	State House 67B	Joe Weverka	820	5.6%
MN	Burnsville City Counc.	* Cara Schulz	12,165	28.1%
MN	Crystal City Counc. Ward 3	Casey Peak	1,113	46.8%
MN	Hennepin Co. Comm.	Mary O'Connor	29,308	45.1%
MN	Little Canada City Counc.	Andrew Henderson	1,640	25.3%
MN		* Maynard Meyer (re-elected)	695	53.4%
MN	Madison Mayor			
MN	Worthington Counc. Member Ward 1	Rod Sankey	387	26.1%
MO	US Senate	Jonathan Dine	67,067	2.4%
MO	US House 1	Robb E. Cunningham	13,954	4.5%
MO	US House 2	Jim Higgins	11,621	2.9%
MO	US House 3	Dan Hogan	11,906	3.2%
MO	US House 4	Mark Bliss	14,355	4.3%
MO	US House 5	Roy Wellborn	9,594	3.0%
MO	US House 6	Russ Monchil	8,051	2.3%
MO	US House 7	Benjamin T. Brixey	17,076	5.1%
MO	US House 8	Jonathan Shell	9,059	2.9%
MO	Governor	Cisse Spragins	40,718	1.5%
MO	Lt. Governor	Steven Hedrick	68,665	2.4%

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2016 Libertarian election results

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State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
MO	Secretary of State	Chris Morrill	107633	3.9%
MO	Treasurer	Sean O'Toole	77844	2.8%
MO	State Senate 5	Steve Schaper	8,988	14.7%
MO	State Senate 7	Jeanne Bojarski	15,375	20.9%
MO	State Senate 21	Bill Wayne	4,073	5.4%
MO	State Senate 23	Bill Slantz	3,012	3.2%
MO	State Senate 31	Lora Young	9,990	12.6%
MO	State House 12	Glenn Gustitus	586	3.0%
MO	State House 17	Ed Buck	647	3.6%
MO	State House 38	Brian Lautenschlager	3,989	23.0%
MO	State House 54	Steve Daugherty	1,004	6.6%
MO	State House 65	Dean "Draig" Hodge	544	3.0%
MO	State House 79	Daniel Elder	1,453	10.4%
MO	State House 83	Andrew Bolin	3,974	23.6%
MO	State House 88	Steven Robnak	4,848	28.3%
MO	State House 97	Tracy Scott	3,963	25.6%
MO	State House 103	Matt Hull	815	3.9%
MO	State House 115	Charles Bigelow	646	4.4%
MO	State House 131	Arthur Hodge	727	4.8%
MO	State House 132	Chris Burros	520	5.2%
MO	State House 134	Daniel Romaine	733	4.3%
MO	State House 135	David Carr	883	5.4%
MO	State House 147	Greg Tlappek	3,771	26.3%
MO	St. Louis Co. Council	Jeff Coleman	2,182	3.5%
MO	St. Louis Co. Council	LaDonna Higgins	2,509	4.0%
MO	Greene Co. Commissioner Dist. 2	Cecil Ince	13,178	21.6%
MO	Warren Co. Public Administrator	Lisa Waltrip	3,358	22.9%
MS	US House 1	Chase Wilson	6,070	2.1%
MS	US House 4	Ric McCluskey	14,212	5.3%
MT	US House	Rick Breckinridge	15,949	3.2%
MT	Governor	Ted Dunlap	16,792	3.3%
MT	Lt. Governor	Ron VanDevender	15,653	3.3%
MT	Secretary of State	Roger Roots	16,957	3.4%
MT	State Senate 39	Dick Motta	612	7.0%
MT	State House 6	Ian Wheeler	311	5.4%
MT	State House 43	Josh Daniels	299	7.2%
MT	State House 57	Andrew T. Forcier	742	14.9%
MT	State House 61	Francis Wendt	277	4.0%
MT	State House 84	Paula Bonar	174	3.5%
NC	US Senate	Sean Haugh	165,319	3.6%
NC	US House 1	J. J. Summerell	8,259	2.4%
NC	Governor	Lon Cecil	101,028	2.2%
NC	Lt. Governor	Jacki Cole	130,253	2.8%
NC	State Senate 15	Brad Hessel	4,971	4.2%
NC	State Senate 17	Susan Hogarth	5,090	4.2%
NC	State Senate 20	Barbara Howe	15,984	18.3%
NC	State Senate 41	Chris Cole	4,894	4.8%
NC	State Senate 44	Nic Haag	20,675	22.7%
NC	State Senate 49	William Meredith	24,500	25.5%
NC	State House 11	Brian Lewis	2,841	7.1%
NC	State House 36	Brian Irving	2,146	4.2%
NC	State House 37	Rob Rose	2,422	4.6%
NC	State House 38	Olen Watson	2,125	15.2%
NC	State House 46	Tom Howell	1,040	3.2%
NC	State House 49	David Ulmer	2,258	4.1%
NC	Bladen Co. Commissioner	Randy Crowe	159	1.0%
NC	Rowan Co. Commissioner	Mark Alan Lyerly	11,564	11.5%
ND	US Senate	Robert Marquette	10,521	3.1%
ND	US House	Jack Seaman	23,454	7.0%

State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
ND	Governor	Marty Riske	13,191	3.9%
ND	Lt. Governor	Joshua Voytek	13,192	3.9%
ND	Insurance Commissioner	Nick Bata	27,562	8.6%
ND	Public Service Commissioner	Tom Skadeland	26,825	8.4%
ND	State Auditor	Roland Riemers	70,627	22.9%
ND	Treasurer	Eric Olson	24,749	7.6%
NE	US House 2	Steven Laird	9,057	3.3%
NE	Gering City Council Ward 3	Ben Backus	Unopposed	
NE	ScottsBluff Co. Commissioner	Tyrel Manley	702	24.2%
NE	Washington Co. Board of Sups. Dist. 3	David Hunt	559	41.6%
NH	US Senate	Brian Chabot	12,988	1.8%
NH	Governor	Max Abramson	31,099	4.2%
NJ	US House 1	Bill Sihr	2,352	0.8%
NJ	US House 2	John Ordille	3,562	1.3%
NJ	US House 4	Jeremy Marcus	3,168	1.0%
NJ	US House 5	Claudio Belusic	6,890	2.2%
NJ	US House 6	Judy Shamy	1,536	0.6%
NJ	US House 7	Dan O'Neill	5,252	1.5%
NJ	US House 8	Dan Delaney	3,114	1.9%
NJ	US House 9	Diego Rivera	3,082	1.4%
NJ	US House 11	Jeff Hetrick	3,420	1.0%
NJ	US House 12	Thomas Fitzpatrick	2,215	0.9%
NJ	Allendale Town Council	Douglas Burgoyne	324	7.3%
NJ	Bergen Co. Freeholder	Demethenes Backos	5,630	0.6%
NJ	Bergen Co. Freeholder	Peter Rohrman	7,524	0.8%
NJ	Berkeley Heights Town Council	Edmund Tom Maciejewski	1,267	10.2%
NJ	Montgomery Township Council	Patrick McKnight	1,483	10.4%
NJ	Ocean Township Town Council	Michael Roche	868	23.7%
NJ	Washington Township Town Council	Joe Rafferty	652	1.4%
NJ	West Milford Town Council	Michael Chazukow	1,969	11.5%
NM	State House 54	Joe Nichols	2,285	24.3%
NY	US Senate	Alex Merced	43,856	0.6%
NV	US House 4	Steve Brown	10,184	3.8%
NV	State Senate 3	Jonathan Friedrich	2,889	3.2%
NV	State Senate 5	Timothy Hagan	2,784	5.1%
NV	State Senate 7	Kimberly Ann Schjang	12,432	30.4%
NV	State Senate 11	Lesley Chan	2,229	5.7%
NV	State Senate 13	Brandon Jacobs	2,406	5.3%
NV	State Senate 15	David Colborne	3,266	5.1%
NC	State House 11	Brian Lewis	2,841	7.1%
NC	State House 36	Brian Irving	2,146	4.2%
NC	State House 37	Rob Rose	2,422	4.6%
NC	State House 38	Olen Watson	2,125	15.2%
NC	State House 46	Tom Howell	1,040	3.2%
NC	State House 49	David Ulmer	2,258	4.1%
NC	Bladen Co. Commissioner	Randy Crowe	159	1.0%
NC	Rowan Co. Commissioner	Mark Alan Lyerly	11,564	11.5%
ND	US Senate	Robert Marquette	10,521	3.1%
ND	US House	Jack Seaman	23,454	7.0%

State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
OK	State Senate 35	Frank Grove	10,665	35.1%
OK	State Senate 41	Richard Prawdzienski	1,813	4.4%
OK	State House 33	Erin K. Adams	731	5.0%
OK	State House 39	Clark Duffe	4,311	23.5%
OK	State House 67	Zac Davis	884	4.4%
OK	State House 70	Tamara Morton	1,074	5.5%
OK	State House 78	Eugene Bell	940	6.1%
OK	State House 81	Steve Long	1,223	7.4%
OK	State House 86	Shannon Grimes	491	4.4%
OK	State House 87	Elle Collins	979	7.2%
OK	State House 100	Christina Wright	909	6.0%
OR	US Senate	Jim Lindsay	21,690	1.2%
OR	US House 1	Kyle Sheahan	10,894	3.0%
OR	US House 4	Gil Guthrie	6,349	1.6%
OR	Governor	James Foster	40,957	2.2%
OR	Attorney General	Lars Hedbor	55,810	3.1%
OR	Secretary of State	Sharon Durbin	44,806	2.4%
OR	State Senate 5	Dan Souza	2,495	4.0%
OR	State Senate 9	Jack Stillwell	2,330	4.1%
OR	State Senate 21	Josh Howard	5,432	8.0%
OR	State Senate 22	Eugene Newell	5,173	8.0%
OR	State Senate 25	Jeffrey Ricks	1,783	3.9%
OR	State House 1	Tamie Kaufman	3,471	10.3%
OR	State House 8	Martha Sherwood	1,399	4.0%
OR	State House 9	Guy Rosinbaum	1,172	3.8%
OR	State House 13	Christopher Tsekouras	1,018	3.1%
OR	State House 16	Andrew Freborg	1,446	4.8%
OR	State House 18	Patrick Marnell	763	2.7%
OR	State House 23	Garrett Leeds	1,333	4.1%
OR	State House 30	Kyle Markley	2,400	8.4%
OR	State House 31	Robert Miller	5,643	18.6%
OR	State House 36	Amanda Burnham	3,375	10.7%
OR	State House 37	Ryan Haffner	712	2.2%
OR	State House 39	Kenny Sernach	857	2.7%
OR	State House 40	Jeffrey Langan	739	5.0%
OR	State House 42	Jeremy Wilson	1,671	4.5%
OR	State House 48	Gary Dye	1,013	4.5%
PA	US Senate	Edward Clifford	230,562	3.9%
PA	US House 15	Paul Rizzo	11,310	3.6%
PA	US House 16	Shawn House	10,408	3.3%
PA	Auditor General	Roy Minet	128,329	2.2%
PA	Treasurer	James Babb	131,713	2.3%
PA	State House 121	Betsy Summers	4,168	21.8%
PA	State House 122	Matt Schutter	544	1.8%
PA	State House 133	Alexander Humanick	1,038	4.0%
PA	State House 138	Daniel R. Richardson	2,420	9.4%
RI	State House 67	Daryl Gould	1,710	26.4%
RI	State House 68	Billy Hunt	2,521	38.0%
RI	State House 69	Analee Berretto	794	15.0%
RI	Little Compton Town Council	Matthew Gillette	523	5.9%
RI	North Kingston Town Council	Tony Jones	2,379	3.8%
SC	US Senate	Bill Bledsoe	37,124	1.8%
SC	US House 1	Michael Crier	11,451	3.6%
SC	US House 6	Rich Piotrowski	3,135	1.2%
TN	US House 6	David Ross	20,241	7.1%

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2016 Libertarian election results

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State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
TN	US House 7	Lenny Ladner	11,810	4.3%
TX	US House 1	Phil Gray	5,044	1.9%
TX	US House 2	James Veasaw	6,418	2.3%
TX	US House 3	Scott Jameson	10,408	3.3%
TX	US House 4	Cody Wommack	29,437	12.0%
TX	US House 5	Ken Ashby	37,311	19.4%
TX	US House 10	Bill Kelsey	13,174	4.2%
TX	US House 11	Nicholas Landholt	23,613	10.5%
TX	US House 12	Ed Colliver	10,586	3.7%
TX	US House 13	Calvin DeWeese	14,687	6.7%
TX	US House 15	Ross Lynn Leone	3,435	1.9%
TX	US House 16	Jaime Perez	17,144	9.9%
TX	US House 17	Clark Patterson	9,685	3.9%
TX	US House 19	Troy Bonar	17,339	8.5%
TX	US House 20	Jeffrey Blunt	29,023	15.5%
TX	US House 21	Mark Loewe	14,698	4.1%
TX	US House 23	Ruben Corvalan	10,717	4.7%
TX	US House 24	Mike Kolls	8,574	3.1%
TX	US House 25	Loren Marc Schneiderman	12,092	3.9%
TX	US House 26	Mark Boler	12,734	4.0%
TX	US House 29	N. Ruben Perez	3,229	2.4%
TX	US House 30	Jarrett Woods	4,740	2.2%
TX	US House 31	Scott Ballard	14,638	5.2%
TX	US House 32	Ed Rankin	43,297	19.0%
TX	US House 35	Rhett Smith	6,484	3.3%
TX	Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals Place 2	Mark Ash	205,996	3.2%
TX	Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals Place 5	William Bryan Strange	248,577	2.8%
TX	Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals Place 6	Mark Bennett	359,255	4.1%
TX	Justice of the Supreme Court Place 3	Kathie Glass	347,630	3.9%
TX	Justice of the Supreme Court Place 5	Tom Oxford	278,815	3.2%
TX	Justice of the Supreme Court Place 9	Don Fulton	303,859	3.4%
TX	Railroad Commissioner	Mark Miller	461,180	5.2%
TX	State Board of Education Dist. 5	Ricardo Perkins	36,421	4.7%
TX	State Board of Education Dist. 6	Whitney Bilyeu	21,958	3.6%
TX	State Board of Education Dist. 9	Anastasia Wilford	18,448	2.9%
TX	State Senate 4	Jenn West	34,746	12.7%
TX	State Senate 12	Ron Wingo	49,082	17.0%
TX	State Senate 13	Joshua Rohn	14,427	7.5%
TX	State Senate 18	Kathie Stone	43,190	15.9%
TX	State Senate 19	Maximilian Martin	8,875	3.7%
TX	State Senate 26	Fidel Castillo	26,618	13.7%
TX	State House 10	Chuck Richter	7,747	13.1%
TX	State House 18	Evan Nagel	5,573	12.0%
TX	State House 33	Rick Donaldson	2,765	3.3%
TX	State House 46	Kevin Ludlow	3,434	6.5%
TX	State House 47	Scott McKinlay	4,821	4.7%
TX	State House 48	Ben Easton	15,652	20.6%

State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
TX	State House 49	Rick Perkins	12,579	15.6%
TX	State House 52	Henry Knetsar	13,054	24.5%
TX	State House 53	Brian Holk	2,162	3.0%
TX	State House 56	Cliff Deuvall	6,836	13.5%
TX	State House 66	Shawn Jones	2,711	3.9%
TX	State House 67	Ray Brewer	2,693	3.7%
TX	State House 70	Rachel Wester	3,145	3.7%
TX	State House 89	Bob Worthington	2,875	3.8%
TX	State House 92	Leah Sees	2,428	3.8%
TX	State House 94	Jessica Pallett	14,028	26.4%
TX	State House 97	Patrick Wentworth	2,524	3.7%
TX	State House 99	Dan Hawkins	9,388	17.2%
TX	State House 100	Heather Marcus	4,947	13.0%
TX	State House 106	Rodney Caston	13,178	19.2%
TX	State House 108	Scott Smith	18,013	27.5%
TX	State House 114	Anthony Holan	2,492	3.7%
TX	State House 126	Eric Moquin	1,731	2.8%
TX	State House 127	Scott Ford	7,481	12.3%
TX	State House 128	Ken Lowder	6,649	13.6%
TX	State House 132	Phil Kurtz	9,846	19.8%
TX	State House 134	Gilberto Vasquez	2,823	3.1%
TX	State House 137	Dan Biggs	731	2.7%
TX	Anderson Co. Sheriff	Gary Rayford	4,778	30.5%
TX	Bexar Co. Commissioner Precinct 3	Jason Pipoli	10,217	4.7%
TX	Bexar Co. Constable Precinct 3	Rudy Glover	10,975	5.1%
TX	Bexar Co. Sheriff	Larry Ricketts	18,889	3.2%
TX	Collin Co. Constable Precinct 1	Mark Wester	8,010	19.7%
TX	Collin Co. Judge 416th Judicial District	Daniel R. Correa	53,814	19.4%
TX	Collin Co. Sheriff	Daniel St. Clair	54,770	19.6%
TX	Dallas Co. Sheriff	David Morris	25,754	3.5%
TX	Dallas Co. Tax Collector	James Birchfield	100,301	16.8%
TX	Denton Co. Sheriff	Randy Butler	47,964	20.1%
TX	Denton Co. Tax Assessor-Collector	Andy Boler	45,326	19.0%
TX	McClennan Co. Commissioner Precinct 3	David Reichert	2,733	17.0%
TX	Nagadoches Co. Commissioner Precinct 1	Joe Allport	512	13.4%
TX	Tarrant Co. Constable Precinct 5	Jack Betz	3,604	15.4%
TX	Tarrant Co. Sheriff	Max Koch	91,410	19.3%
TX	Tarrant Co. Tax Assessor	Cindy Stafford	33,773	5.2%
TX	Travis Co. Sheriff	Eric Guerra	22,185	4.9%
TX	Travis Co. Tax Assessor-Collector	Steven Haskett	69,000	18.3%
TX	Jarrell Mayor	* Larry Bush (re-elected)	Unopposed	
UT	US House 1	Craig Bowden	12,710	5.7%
UT	Governor	Brian Kamerath	24,740	2.9%
UT	Lt. Governor	Barry Short	22,279	2.9%

State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Pct.
UT	Attorney General	Andrew McCullough	56,386	6.4%
UT	State Senate 6	Jim Dexter	1,686	6.2%
UT	State Senate 14	Joe Buchman	3,143	9.4%
UT	State House 6	Aaron Davis	667	5.2%
UT	State House 10	Derryck Gordon	752	7.0%
UT	State House 16	Brent Zimmerman	760	7.8%
UT	State House 35	Chelsea Travis	680	8.7%
UT	State House 46	Lee Ann Walker	3,027	22.7%
VA	Virginia Beach City Council	* Jessica Abbott	84,986	59.0%
VA	Virginia Beach City Council	Robert Dean	55,956	41.3%
VT	Essex Selectboard	Varpilah Chase	845	8.8%
VT	State House, Rutland-2 (Proctor)	Ted Schaft	291	3.3%
WA	Attorney General	Joshua Trumbull	823,741	32.1%
WA	State Senate 3	James Apker	13,968	32.0%
WA	State Senate 11	Dennis Price	9,413	22.9%
WA	State House Dist. 10 Pos. 1	Michael Scott	17,519	27.9%
WA	State House Dist. 21 Pos. 1	Alexander Hels	12,266	26.6%
WA	State House Dist. 3 Pos. 1	Randy McGlenn	13,878	32.0%
WA	State House Dist. 31 Pos. 1	John Frostad	11,991	27.7%
WA	State House Dist. 46 Pos. 1	Stephanie Viskovich	8,773	14.1%
WA	State House Dist. 48 Pos. 1	Michelle Darnell	13,283	28.8%
WA	State House Dist. 48 Pos. 2	Benjamin Phelps	12,025	26.2%
WA	State House Dist. 7 Pos. 2	Michael Foster	10,276	22.9%
WI	US Senate	Phil Anderson	87,291	3.0%
WI	US House 1	Jason Lebeck	7,493	2.1%
WI	US House 4	Andy Craig	32,184	11.3%
WI	US House 5	John Arndt	15,324	3.9%
WV	US House 3	Zane Lawhorn	16,777	8.2%
WV	Governor	David Moran	15,205	2.2%
WI	State Assembly 7	Matthew Bughman	1,303	5.4%
WI	State Assembly 54	Jordan Hansen	7,682	30.0%
WI	State Assembly 66	George Meyers	3,106	18.6%
WV	Attorney General	Karl Kolenich	23,860	4.0%
WV	Comm. of Agriculture	Buddy Guthrie	67,960	10.3%
WV	Secretary of State	John Buckley	31,965	4.6%
WV	State Auditor	Brenton Ricketts	45,583	6.9%
WV	Treasurer	Michael Young	39,242	5.8%
WV	State Senate 14	Mark Persinger	2,131	4.9%
WV	House of Delegates 32	Travis Sims	1,766	10.0%
WV	House of Delegates 45	Tom Thacker	1,672	23.9%
WV	House of Delegates 51	Eddie Wagoner	4,779	3.5%
WV	House of Delegates 55	Tonya Persinger	467	5.7%
WV	Cabell Co. Sheriff	James Copley	4,373	15.5%
WY	US House	Lawrence Struempf	9,028	3.6%

Did Libertarians ‘swing the election’ for Donald Trump?

In the aftermath of Hillary Clinton’s loss, her supporters launched fever-pitched accusations of “spoiler” at Libertarian presidential candidate Gary Johnson. Was Johnson a spoiler?

Only if there were states where Johnson beat the margin between Clinton and Trump votes. And then only if enough votes for Gary Johnson would have gone to Clinton, in enough states, to change the outcome of the election.

Johnson beat the margin of victory in ten states, more than any alternative presidential candidate since Ross Perot in 1996. Most of Johnson’s margin-beaters were crucial battleground states which could potentially have swung the election.

Johnson beat the margin of victory in ten states, more than any...independent presidential candidate since Ross Perot in 1996. Most of Johnson’s margin-beaters were crucial battleground states which could potentially have swung the election.

But which states, if any, did Johnson swing, and which way did he swing them?

MSNBC news commentators claimed that an exit poll showed Johnson taking slightly more from Clinton than Trump. Why? Perhaps because of his Libertarian views on same-sex marriage, marijuana, foreign policy, and immigration.

But numerous polls had shown that half of Johnson’s voters would have stayed home or refused to vote for president, and that the other half would have split evenly between Trump and Clinton.

In two of the ten states, Libertarian votes far surpassed the margin. Johnson received 13 times as many votes as the margin in Michigan, and 22 times the margin in New Hampshire. With such command of marginal votes, it is entirely possible Johnson’s presence did change the electoral outcome.

But Clinton won New Hampshire, leaving Michigan as

the only state where Johnson may have swung the election. If Clinton wins it (Michigan hadn’t been called at the time of this writing), the state’s 16 electoral votes would bring her total to 248, still below the 270 needed to win.

Many Libertarian voters didn’t care whether either Clinton or Trump lost, because, once the dust had settled, both would keep big government big. Both would keep the U.S. entangled in unnecessary military conflicts. Both would continue to violate civil liberties.

“Howell’s Law: The difference between what a Democrat or Republican will do in office is less than the difference between what either one says they will do and what they will actually do, if elected,” said Carla Howell, Political Director for the Libertarian National Committee. “In other words, if you feel you must vote for a D or an R, throw a dart.”

Others relish the idea of Libertarians beating the margin, because it makes the party a force in elections and gives future candidates more leverage to press for Libertarian solutions.

Nicholas Sarwark, Libertarian National Committee chair, said of those who complained about Libertarians swinging the election, in a speech at the Johnson–Weld election-night celebration in New Mexico, “Your tears are delicious.”

He explained his assertion to ReasonTV’s Matt Welch. “The Libertarian votes...are people who are not going to vote for a warmonger. They’re not going to vote for a corrupt corporate crony. They’re not going to vote for someone who will continue to pursue the war on drugs or continue to

“The Libertarian votes...are not going to...a warmonger. They’re not going to vote for a corrupt corporate crony. They’re not going to vote for someone who will continue to pursue the war on drugs or continue to spend our country into oblivion.”
—Nicholas Sarwark, LNC Chair

spend our country into oblivion. They’re stepping outside of that politics of fear, and they’re saying, I’m not participating in your clown show.... If you run bad candidates, you’ll lose. If you don’t address Libertarian ideas, you lose.”

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States where Johnson’s votes exceeded margin between Trump and Clinton

State	Total votes	Johnson percent	Johnson voters	Clinton voters	Trump voters	D–R margin	Johnson exceeded margin by...
Colorado	2,321,335	4.84%	112,325	1,102,926	1,042,586	60,340	1.9 times
Florida	9,386,468	2.19%	206,004	4,485,658	4,605,328	119,670	1.7 times
Maine	693,184	5.09%	35,309	333,373	311,361	22,012	1.6 times
Michigan	4,784,521	3.61%	172,696	2,264,415	2,277,636	13,221	13.1 times
Minnesota	2,926,949	3.85%	112,767	1,363,703	1,320,895	42,808	2.6 times
Nevada	1,094,166	3.41%	37,299	537,753	511,319	26,434	1.4 times
New Hampshire	728,129	4.16%	30,257	346,180	344,809	1,371	22.1 times
New Mexico	787,977	9.34%	73,604	380,527	315,293	65,234	1.1 times
Pennsylvania	5,847,638	2.39%	139,738	2,788,242	2,851,050	62,808	2.2 times
Wisconsin	2,938,900	3.62%	106,292	1,380,512	1,407,401	26,889	4 times

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Polling bias hurts Libertarians

Did 2016 election polls provide reliable information about who American voters wanted to be President of the United States?

The Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD), which is a bipartisan organization staffed entirely by Republicans and Democrats, decided to use polling to determine who gets to be included in the general election debates. That’s probably a good idea—if the polling is impartial and accurate, and if they set a minimum percentage for inclusion that is fair and reasonable.

But this is not what the CPD did. Four presidential candidates were on the

ballot in enough states to potentially win 270 electoral votes, the minimum needed to win the election. The CPD picked five polls, most of which did not include all four candidates in the opening question: “Whom do you support for President?” According to numerous reports received by the Johnson–Weld 2016 campaign, respondents who tried to select “Gary Johnson” were denied this choice, or the call was terminated.

Polls that did allow the Libertarian nominee to be selected buried his name deep in the survey questions. Anyone who wanted to vote for Johnson had to be patient and endure frustration to stay on the call.

This lowered Johnson’s poll numbers, making it virtually impossible for him to reach the CPD’s high, 15 percent threshold. It gets worse.

Some of the pollsters who included Johnson under-sampled the responses of two large groups: millennials and voters registered “independent.” At times, Gov. Johnson was polling second in these groups, just behind Democrat Clinton and ahead of Republican Trump.

One CNN poll, which put Johnson at seven percent, left millennials out of the poll altogether. Had CNN included them, the poll would have shown him at more than double

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Liberty goes on a road trip across the U.S.A.

by Laura Ann Valle

In a whirlwind six-week tour, an RV emblazoned with "Liberty Tour 2016" could be seen crisscrossing the United States, staging more than 40 events sponsored by Our America Initiative (OAI) that featured a variety of liberty topics, formats, and speakers, including occasional appearances by Libertarian candidates Gary Johnson and Bill Weld.

The group worked in partnership with local Libertarians and liberty-minded college groups, including Young Americans for Freedom, Students for Liberty, and Young Americans for Liberty.

The tour of liberty "rock stars" started at the Nevada LP headquarters in Las Vegas, and ended at the "Tacos with Gary!" get-out-the-vote event at House of Blues in San Diego, Calif.

The tour was the brainchild of Seth Levy and Charles Frohman of the Our America Initiative Foundation. They decided over the summer that this election season offered them a unique opportunity to educate a large numbers of voters about the principles of libertarianism.

Kelly Casaday coordinated media coverage for the tour and helped Levy plan the logistics. Richard Brubaker, who has served as state chair for the Libertarian

Party of Wyoming, drove the RV, and kept everyone entertained with his gift for storytelling on the road. Mark Gajkowski was a backup driver, and Amanda Whittmore also helped out at various stops along the way.

At the tour's kick-off on Sept. 26, the night of the first presidential debate, Matt Welch from *Reason* magazine interviewed Johnson and Weld, before they commenced their live commentary during the first presidential debate, via Twitter.

Speakers included emcee Travis Irvine

and Eduardo Lopez, former Vice Chair of the Republican Liberty Caucus, who traveled with the RV throughout the tour.

Among the guest speakers on the tour was John Kiriakou, who spoke about his experience as a CIA whistleblower, which will be featured in an upcoming TV mini-series being produced by Oliver Stone.

In Alaska, the tour featured Matt Kibbe of Free the People, who spoke about "Beer and Liberty," and had the farthest reach with a live broadcast heard by listeners statewide.

Neill Franklin, former Baltimore Chief of Police and the president of Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP), headlined an event in Virginia.

Stops in Virginia, New York, Colorado, and Alaska drew the greatest attendance and media coverage. A rally in Richmond, Virginia, which featured Gary Johnson, required a last-minute change of venue to accommodate the crowd of almost 1,000.

Other featured speakers included Andre Marrou, the LP's 1992 presidential nominee and a former elected Libertarian state legislator in Alaska, LP Political Director Carla Howell, and former Libertarian vice-presidential candidate Larry Sharpe.

The New York event featured Fox News reporter Katherine Timpf and Red Eye's Ben Kissel.

The tour included libertarian-leaning Democratic and Republican Party professionals, such as Terry Michael, the former DNC press secretary, GOP advisor Juan Hernandez, former RNC Communications Director Liz Mair, and former Republican Liberty Caucus of Massachusetts chairman Kevin Martin.

Said Lopez, "A lot of progress was made, spreading the word about liberty and creating partnerships with groups of people from all types of political backgrounds." •



The Liberty Tour RV

Public outcry not enough to open debates

by Judge James P. Gray (Ret.)

Even though there was a public and popular outcry from many sources for the Libertarian and Green Party candidates to be a part of the final 2016 presidential and vice-presidential debates, it was not enough to shake the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD) from its stubborn refusal to expand inclusion beyond the two old parties.

The commission cold-shouldered the voices of hundreds of thousands of people who signed a petition at *FairDebates.com*, including former governors, like Mitt Romney and Arnold Schwarzenegger, and many established newspapers, such as the *Boston Herald* and *Chicago Tribune*—all calling for the inclusion in the debates of the only other two candidates who mathematically could have won the presidency.

It will take a lawsuit, because the invitations are controlled by the CPD, in turn controlled exclusively by high-ranking Republicans and Democrats. They are determined, for their own obvious and selfish reasons, not to share the debate stage.

The bad news is that the lawsuit was dismissed by the

trial court judge in federal court in Washington, D.C., without even having heard oral argument. But the good news is that the lawsuit's sponsor, Our America Initiative, has filed an appeal, with enthusiasm and optimism that it will eventually prevail. If that happens, the presidential election in 2020 will be materially different and far more reflective of the will of voters.

Our America Initiative (OAI) is a 401(c)3 educational entity, and it has retained a great attorney named Bruce Fein, who was in the Reagan Administration's Department of Justice.

It's been known that this would be a long haul, and would be decided only on appeal. Because this could well be the most important political litigation in the last 50 years, OAI will pursue it to the end.

What could do more to improve presidential elections than opening debates to more and different candidates and their ideas? •

Judge James P. Gray (Ret.) was the 2012 Libertarian candidate for vice president and is a plaintiff in *Libertarian Party v. Commission on Presidential Debates*.



Demonstrators protesting Johnson's exclusion outside the office of the Commission on Presidential Debates in D.C.

St. Fleur using ballot measure to force city bankruptcy

Gary St. Fleur doesn't buy the idea that "you can't fight city hall." He's taking on the powers that be in his hometown of Scranton, Pennsylvania, a small, depressed city that is wracked with high debt, high unemployment, and government profiteers who plunder overtaxed citizens.

St. Fleur, who formed the advocacy group Save Scranton, says that the city must declare bankruptcy to get out from under its many unaffordable, unsustainable liabilities.

But the town has refused. So he's gearing up to take it to the voters with a Nov. 2017 ballot initiative that would give them the authority to force the city into bankruptcy.

He has started collecting signatures toward his goal of 4,200, twice the number needed to qualify for the ballot.

Gary St. Fleur's activism is getting local media attention: his ballot initiative was mentioned during a Bloomberg Municipal Brief and in the opening of a Wells Fargo Securities report, *Populism, Pensions and Municipal Distress*.

This will be St. Fleur's second major challenge to city authorities.

Earlier this year, he convinced more than 60 business leaders in town to sign a petition declaring their refusal to pay the town's punitive Business Privilege Tax, which requires retailers, wholesalers, and other service providers to pay three percent of their gross receipts to the town.

A large portion of the city's budget, as well as proceeds from its borrowing, fund bloated government-employee paychecks and perks, including city workers' pensions and disability payments.

Scranton pays more than ten times the amount that similar towns in the state pay for retirees on disability. A stunning 50 percent of retired police officers and 58 percent of retired firefighters are on disability, costing the city over \$5.2 million per year.

Save Scranton's mission statement says, "We will not wait for the government to change things. The people of Scranton will determine the future of Scranton." •

Save Scranton website: SaveScranton.com



Gary St. Fleur, founder of Save Scranton

Libertarian Assemblyman Moore loses re-election bid; censured for tax-hike votes by state LP and LNC

by Sandra Kallander

John Moore, one of two sitting Libertarian state legislators in the United States, lost his 2016 re-election to the Nevada State Assembly, District 8, placing third with 6.8 percent of the vote. He had been elected in 2014 as a Republican but switched his voter registration to the LP in January, becoming the first Libertarian legislator in Nevada history.

The Nevada LP had embraced Moore because of his willingness to oppose those in his own party promoting high tax and spending policies. The national LP also celebrated Moore's switch to the LP. He was a featured speaker at the 2016 Libertarian nominating convention, and the Libertarian National Committee (LNC), in a rare move, voted to donate \$10,000 to his re-election bid.

But the LP's honeymoon with Moore ended in the weeks before the November election, when Moore cast two decisive votes during a special session, both of which were viewed as contrary to the party's mission of cutting taxes and ending crony capitalism.

On Oct. 14, at the end of a week-long special session called by Gov. Mark Sandoval, Moore voted to spend \$750 million in taxpayer dollars toward a stadium in Las Vegas to host the NFL's Raiders, along with improvements to the city's convention center to be paid for by an increase in the hotel tax.

The bill needed a two-thirds majority to pass. Moore's "yes" vote was enough to tip the scales in favor of the tax increase, which won 28 to 13.

A day earlier, Moore also voted to enable the Clark County Commission (CCC) to vote on a tax increase for the purpose of more law enforcement

spending, which the Nevada LP had successfully opposed. This enabling vote removed the state's super-majority requirement, allowing the local commission to pass a tax with a simple majority.

As a result of these two votes, both the LP Nevada Executive Committee and the LNC voted to censure John Moore.

Alexander DiBenedetto, Secretary of LP Nevada, said in an Oct. 17 press release announcing the state party's censure, "The Libertarian Party prides itself on saying 'principles before party.' This past week, Assemblyman John Moore abandoned both."

In a letter responding to the LNC censure, Moore said that his enabling vote did not pass a tax in itself but leaves it to the Commission. He also argued that his constituents don't pay the hotel tax unless they choose to stay in a hotel.

Moore further justified his decision by arguing that had he not voted to approve the bill to fund the stadium with the hotel tax increase, Gov. Sandoval would have called another special session to pass another enabling bill allowing the CCC to raise the tax, which he says would have passed with or without his vote.

Moore also said, "I stand by my deciding vote, 100 percent. I polled 47 percent (13,000 people) out of 28,000 active voters in my district to see how they felt about the issue: 62 percent supported it.... I have never and will never put party objectives above the will of the people that I represent."

The LNC motion to censure, passed by a 9:6 vote on Nov. 2, reads as follows:

Whereas Nevada Assemblyman John Moore ... has during the past month voted not once but

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Top State Legislature candidates with one Democrat or one Republican opponent				
State	Office	Candidate	Votes	Percent
NV	State Assembly 36	Dennis Hof	10,675	39.2%
RI	State House 68	Billy Hunt	2,521	38.0%
OK	State Senate 35	Frank Grove	10,665	35.1%
WA	State House D3 Pos. 1	Randy McGlenn	13,878	32.0%
WA	State Senate 3	James Apker	13,968	32.0%
CO	State House 21	Michael Seebeck	7,644	31.1%
NV	State Senate 7	Kimberly Ann Schjang	12,432	30.4%
WI	State Assembly 54	Jordan Hansen	7,682	30.0%
AR	State House 77	Stephen Edwards	3,027	29.9%
KS	State Senate 6	Jason Conley	5,102	29.0%
WA	State House D48 Pos. 1	Michelle Darnell	13,283	28.8%
AR	State House 96	Michael Kalagias	2,908	28.6%
MO	State House 88	Steven Robnak	4,848	28.3%
CO	State House 16	John Hjersman	10,071	28.0%
WA	State House D10 Pos. 1	Michael Scott	17,519	27.9%
WA	State House D31 Pos. 1	John Frostad	11,991	27.7%
TX	State House 108	Scott Smith	18,013	27.5%
IN	State House 54	Zachary Lee	6,605	27.1%
WA	State House D21 Pos. 1	Alexander Hels	12,266	26.6%
RI	State House 67	Daryl Gould	1,710	26.4%
TX	State House 94	Jessica Pallett	14,028	26.4%
MO	State House 147	Greg Tlapek	3,771	26.3%
CA	State Assembly 2	Kenneth Anton	30,918	26.2%
WA	State House D48 Pos. 2	Benjamin Phelps	12,025	26.2%
MO	State House 97	Tracy Scott	3,963	25.6%
NC	State Senate 49	William Meredith	24,500	25.5%
CA	State Assembly 1	Donn Coenen	34,939	25.3%
AR	State Senate 32	Jacob Mosier	9,340	25.0%

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Affiliate news and events are provided to *LP News* by Libertarian Party state affiliates.

California

Starr wins council seat; Weber re-elected; Stewart gains Fire Protection District seat

California Libertarians had some good news on Nov. 8. Susan Marie Weber, Libertarian Palm Desert City Councilwoman, won re-election. Former LPC state chair Aaron Starr convinced his fellow voters in Oxnard, a city of 203,000 in Ventura County, to pass Measure M to roll back a massive sewer fee hike.

Jonathan Hall, board member of the Tehachapi-Cummings Water District (Kern County), won a fourth term with 65 percent of the vote. In addition, we already knew that Wallace Stewart had won a seat on the Vista Fire Protection District Board (San Diego County), as he was unopposed for the seat and the election was canceled.

Five California Libertarians ran in state legislative races. In Assembly District 2 along the north coast, Ken Anton won 26.3 percent in a two-way race, including 43.3 percent in Del Norte County and 37 percent in Trinity County. In Assembly District 1 in the rural northeastern part of California, Donn Coenen won 25.5 percent in a two-way race, including 34.4 percent in Butte County and 33.6 percent in Nevada County.

The three Los Angeles County candidates were Honor “Mimi” Robson in Senate District 33, who won 21.2 percent in a two-way race; Mike Everling in Assembly District 51, who won 13.6 percent in a two-way race; and Baron Bruno in Assembly District 62, who had the only three-way race and won 5.1 percent.

California voters disagreed with the Libertarian Party of California’s positions on most of the 17 ballot propositions. Voters passed every tax and bond measure they could find, supported additional gun control laws, and voted to keep the death penalty—and make it easier to implement to boot. We are now the most Democratic state in the country (with Hawaii and Vermont competing closely), so we will have our work cut out for us on economic issues in the coming year.



Libertarian Wallace Stewart was sworn in on Nov. 9 to his new seat on the board of Vista Fire Protection District, San Diego County.

Colorado

Growing Libertarian vote totals

This has been an exciting season of growth for the LP of Colorado (LPCO). Partisan Libertarian registrations grew by over 26 percent, outpacing both the Democrats (just over 7 percent) and the Republicans (4.25 percent). Grassroots sign-waving events spread across the state, and a “Let Gary Debate” protest was hosted on the steps of the capital. Colorado Libertarians showed up in force at the polls as well, with over 80 percent participation, helping Gary Johnson garner 5 percent of the vote.

Down-ticket candidates Richard Long-

streth, Mike McRedmond, Hans Romer, Michelle Poague, Susan Quileash, Paotie Dawson, Judith Darcy, Matthew Hess, Kim Tavendale, Roy Dakroub, Kevin Gulbranson, Glenn Ingalls, and Joe Johnson all exceeded 5 percent, with Gaylon Kent, Bruce Griffith, Norm Olsen, and Martin Buchanan coming in close to that level.

In two-way races, several candidates exceeded 20 percent, as follows: Manuel Quintel (over 24 percent), John Hjersman (over 28 percent), Michael Seebeck (over 31 percent), and Gilbert Fuller (over 22 percent). Additionally, socialized medicine (Colorado Care, Amendment 69) was soundly defeated, and Coloradans citizens won the right to medical aid in dying (Proposition 106).

Initially excluded from an important debate because of a voter-registration hurdle, U.S. Senate candidate Lily Tang Williams succeeded in being invited once Colorado Libertarian registrations had reached the required 1 percent threshold. In the election, she placed third of the seven candidates, with over 3.5 percent of the vote.

In the wake of multiple national news stories about illegal photographs of completed ballots, dubbed “ballot selfies,” LPCO Communications Director and LNC Region 1 Representative Caryn Ann Harlos filed a federal civil-rights lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of Colorado law against self-disclosure of one’s own marked ballot. She won a preliminary injunction, with an eye toward eventually overturning this law. The LPCO was mentioned prominently in many news stories, including on television; and more important, freedom of political speech and of alternative voices

was brought to the public consciousness.

The LPCO continued in its very active push for outreach activities, including more unconventional outlets, such as the Zombie Crawl and the Self Reliance Expo.

Hawaii

Ballot access secured for next ten years

In a night with some disappointments for its candidates, the Libertarian Party of Hawaii (LPHI) managed nonetheless to gather enough votes to retain ballot status for the next five elections. Adopting a strategy of attempting the lowest threshold (4 percent of votes cast in state senate races), the total votes for the five candidates in qualifying races was 8,293 out of 135,298 across eight races. That is a percentage of 6.1, enough to retain ballot access for the party.

The party achieved ballot access for the 2014 election through successful completion of a signature drive, and for 2016 by having gotten sufficient votes in the 2014 election.

This year’s qualifying votes have carried LPHI through its third successive election with ballot-access status. By statute, that means the party will remain on the ballot for an additional five election cycles—so for the next ten years, LPHI will be free of the burden of ballot-access petition drives.

Results for candidates were less positive, with no electoral victories. However, several candidates did better than projected, led by Anthony Higa. His 13 percent result in a three-way race was 5 points better than the pre-election projection of 8 percent. Higa ran for the 19th State House seat. He has now run twice, both times being undermined by the presence of token Republicans in his race. Overcoming the public’s entrenched bias to treat Republicans as legitimate challengers and Libertarians as irrelevant has been difficult. With news reporters continuing to promote Republicans as the legitimate opponents of the Democrats, even in races where the Libertarian spends more time and money campaigning, is a problem the party must overcome. A similar situation affected first-time candidate Michelle Tippens in the 24th State House race.

Clearly the efforts put in by the LP in Hawaii this year have not been enough to overcome the obstacle of entrenched Democratic voters and a dismissive media. The candidate with the highest percentage of votes was Mike Last in the 5th State House district. His budget was under \$100. Only two candidates spent over \$10,000: Higa, who got 13 percent, and Arnold Phillips in the 10th State Senate district, who got just 17 percent



L-R: Michele Poague, Kevin Gulbranson, Caryn Ann Harlos, and Michael Stapleton at a Gary Johnson rally in Denver

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in a two-way race. So the money spent has done little to change outcomes.

The party laments the defeat of Republican Sam Slom in his bid for a sixth term in the state senate. Slom was an active LP member before deciding to join the GOP to help him get into office. Another libertarian-leaning Republican, John Carroll, was defeated in his attempt to become a U.S. senator; Mike Kokoski, the Libertarian candidate in that race, got just 1.6 percent. On the bright side, many Libertarians were happy to see Keli'i Akina win his race for an Office of Hawaiian Affairs seat. In the nonpartisan Honolulu mayor's race, Charles Djou was defeated by incumbent Kirk Caldwell. Djou is a former Republican congressman who has indicated that he voted for Gary Johnson this year.

Pro-marijuana legislation passed in many states across the nation. The expected victory in California means its growers can now come out into the open, and begin to consolidate control of what will likely soon become a broad legal market in the U.S. Hawaii legislators were too timid to even discuss legalization in 2016, leaving us behind. This decision will cost our state billions of dollars in lost opportunity for revenues. LPHI will work hard in 2017 to convince the controlling Democrats to fix this error promptly.

Hopefully, progress can be made on the many problems facing our nation and

state. Too bad the cast of characters elected to address them does not leave much room for optimism.

Illinois

Record results for statewide candidates; exploding membership numbers

In Illinois, this past election cycle has been a huge success, and an even bigger challenge. Libertarian statewide candidates Claire Ball for Comptroller and Kent McMillen for Senate traveled over 30,000 miles, attending events all over the state. The result was record numbers of Libertarian votes for each of these offices. Claire earned over 182,000 votes, and Kent pulled in 172,000. Even bigger were Illinois's results for presidential candidate Gary Johnson. His result of 204,000 votes was 3.6 times larger than his previous record (2012), and was 3.8 percent of the vote in Illinois. None of the candidates was able to top the 5 percent required for the LP to become an established party in Illinois, but the Johnson campaign inspired thousands of new volunteers whom the state party will be trying to recruit in the coming months.

In the meantime, membership is exploding. This leads to increased workload for the party's already busy officers, but they are rising to the challenge. There is also a huge increase in referrals from the national LP. Already, this new interest has resulted in more donations and volunteers. As part of the ongoing efforts to become

more effective, a program of neighborhood activism has been initiated. This will result in small, achievable goals for individual volunteers that, together, will build a true grassroots party infrastructure in Illinois.

Additional efforts are being made by the Political Division to get 2017 candidates onto the ballot and to recruit candidates for 2018. The large number of uncontested races in this election represents an opportunity to grow the party. Interest in campaigning for office is at an all-time high.

Website: LPillinois.org

Iowa

Iowa earns political-party status

Johnson-Weld won 3.8 percent of the votes in Iowa, which exceeds the 2 percent of votes needed for the Libertarian Party of Iowa (LPIA) to be recognized as a full-status political party. In 2018, for the first time, Iowa Libertarians will be able to participate in the primaries!

"Voters ask us why they don't hear about Libertarian candidates until late in an election," said LPIA Campaigns and Elections Chair, James Schneider. "Our candidates have been campaigning for months, but they have not been allowed to file their candidacy papers until August—and often the media and polls do not acknowledge a candidate until papers are filed." With political-party status, Libertarians will now be able to file for office before primary elections.

A record 24 Libertarian candidates in Iowa won a record 174,866 votes. The following five candidates broke Iowa LP records for both the number of votes received and the percentage of votes:

- Johnson-Weld, President and Vice President (top of ticket): 58,893 votes for 3.8 percent
- Charles Aldrich, U.S. Senate: 41,608 votes for 2.7 percent
- Bryan Holder, U.S. Rep (District 3): 15,337 votes for 3.9 percent
- John George, State Senate (District 38): 1,806 votes for 5.9 percent (record for a 3-way race)
- Rick Stewart, Sheriff of Linn County: 25,567 votes for 26.1 percent

Kansas

2017–18 candidates stepping forward

LP Kansas (LPKS) continues to grow rapidly and support excellent candidates. There are already a number of Libertarians who have pledged to run for office in 2018, as well as several members plan-

ning to run in the nonpartisan city council elections to be held in 2017.

Here are some statistics about the growth of LPKS.

Between the 2016 LP national convention and the presidential election, the number of identified supporters on the LPKS.org web site increased by 134 percent, and the number of volunteers increased by 242 percent.

In the past decade in Kansas, Democratic Party members have increased 2.5 percent; Republican Party members, 5.9 percent; in unaffiliated voters, 23 percent; and Libertarian Party members, 71 percent. In the past year alone, LP voter registration is up 13.5 percent.

Massachusetts

Massachusetts attains major-party status; what that means moving forward

As the polls closed on Tues., Nov. 8, Libertarians in Mass. were hopeful that the Johnson-Weld campaign would earn 5 percent or more of the national popular vote and that the first Libertarian congressperson to the U.S. House of Representatives would be elected. While neither of these lofty goals was achieved, they provided a springboard of enthusiasm by which the state party attained "major party" status in the commonwealth, and produced the strongest performance by a Libertarian congressional candidate in Mass. since Angelo Laudani in 1982.

That performance belonged to western Massachusetts's Thomas Simmons, who received 8.6 percent of the vote in a three-way race for the 1st Congressional District of Massachusetts, totaling 27,427 votes. Simmons, a professor at Greenfield Community College, ran on a platform of local education controls, reduced tax burdens, defense of civil liberties. He was even recommended in the Berniecrats Network's voter guide, a rare feat for a staunch Libertarian. Simmons's ability to communicate liberty in a way that resonates with the casual voter will prove invaluable as the party grows its influence in Massachusetts politics.

With the Johnson-Weld campaign earning 136,784 votes for a 4.2 percent share of the Massachusetts vote, the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts will have "major party" status through the 2018 cycle. Unlike what this would mean in most states, this makes running Libertarians for most offices more difficult by shrinking the pool of voters eligible to sign nomination papers for our candidates. Despite this tactical disadvantage, there is one overriding benefit: perceived legitimacy. Now voters will see "Libertarian Party" on voter-registration forms, alongside

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Claire Ball, Libertarian for Illinois Comptroller campaigning at a gun show in Illinois

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the two old parties. Now voters will have the option to select the “Libertarian” ballot during primary elections.

In order to market ourselves as a legitimate threat to the old parties, we must present ourselves as a credible alternative. “Major party” status will do just that.

Mississippi

Party building started for 2017

The Libertarian Party of Mississippi has been working hard to get out the information of our candidates, as we had three on the ballot this year.

Governor Gary Johnson, President; Chase Wilson, U.S. House District 1; Ric McCluskey, U.S. House, District 4. When the dust had settled and the ballots had been counted, a new record had been set for Libertarians in Mississippi.

In 2008, Bob Barr received a meager 0.2 percent of the overall vote. When Gov. Johnson ran in 2012, he was able to do better, at 0.52 percent. However, from the efforts of my team and the great volunteers for the Johnson–Weld campaign in our state, headed by Carole-Anne Morris, we more than doubled Johnson’s 2012 numbers, to 1.19 percent of the vote, or 13,806 votes. In the congressional races, Chase Wilson garnered 6,066 votes for 2.05 percent, nearly doubling the votes received by the 2014 candidate, who received 3,830 votes.

In Congressional District 4, Ric McCluskey led a heated battle against three-term incumbent Steven Palazzo, in which McCluskey exposed allegations of Palazzo’s failure to report for National Guard duty and being listed as AWOL. While this coupled with Palazzo’s failure to face his constituents didn’t unseat the congressman, it was enough to net McCluskey over 14,000 votes, for 5.3 percent of the total votes. Whether it was McCluskey’s ability to remain strong and do the unpopular task of calling out a sitting congressman on his military record, or voter frustration, McCluskey managed to get more votes in the 4th District than Gov. Johnson received in the entire state.

McCluskey has wasted no time: he is working with the MSLP to recruit candidates for 2017 races across the state, and to help it establish more county affiliates.

Montana

Strong election results boost late chair’s legacy

Tragic news came to Montana’s Libertarian Party in September, when Montana’s longtime LP chairman, Mike Fellows, died in an automobile accident. Not only was Mike the state chair, but he was also actively campaigning for Congress when he crashed while driving home from a campaign appearance.

Mike was by far the longest-serving state chair in LP history. He had virtually carried Montana’s LP organization on his back for more than 20 years. As an LP activist, Mike was a recurring candidate for Montana political offices, including governor, U.S. Congress, and Secretary of State. In 2014, Mike set a national LP record, receiving 43 percent of the vote in a statewide partisan race (Clerk of the State Supreme Court). Mike also appeared and testified frequently before committees of the state legislature to advocate libertarian ideas and protect third-party ballot access.

This year, Mike had been in declining health; he had had to go on kidney dialysis while he ran for U.S. Congress. His death temporarily threw the Montana LP into a state of disorganization. Rick Breckenridge was able to replace Fellows on the ballot in the congressional race at the eleventh hour.

LP candidates ended up doing quite well in Montana’s general election. On Nov. 8, Montana was one of eight states in which Gary Johnson received at least 5 percent of the vote (at 5.6 percent). Montana’s LP ballot access has been preserved for the next four years.

In part due to the constant vigilance and activism of Mike Fellows, Montana has good ballot access for alternative parties. State law provides that a party retains official recognition (thus does not need to gather signatures for its candidates) if the party has had a candidate for a statewide office in either of the last two general elections receive 5 percent or more of total votes cast for the current, elected governor. Roger Roots, who ran for Montana Secretary of State (at 6.8 percent), Ted Dunlap, who ran for governor (at 6.7 percent), and Rick Breckenridge, who replaced Mike Fellows in the race for Montana’s lone congressional seat (at 6.4 percent) easily met this requirement.

Website: *MTLP.org*



One of several digital billboards that Tennessee Libertarian Scott Benson got placed along I40 in Nashville

New Hampshire

Ballot access regained; first in 20 years

In the race for governor, three candidates sought the seat left vacant by Gov. Maggie Hassan, who instead of seeking a third term had opted to oppose Kelly Ayotte for U.S. Senate. It was this open seat which gave Libertarians hope, not because Libertarian nominee Max Abramson was polling at a level to get elected, rather because Abramson has earned the LP of New Hampshire (LPNH) something they have not had in 20 years: ballot access. Max Abramson received 26,483 votes (4.21 percent), thus earning LPNH ballot-access status for 2018.

Obtaining official party status will save the Libertarian Party thousands of dollars and hundreds of man-hours by releasing our candidates from the burden of petitioning for access to the general-election ballot. Barring a change of election laws, in 2018 Libertarian candidates will have the same requirements as their Republican and Democratic Party counterparts when it comes to getting onto the ballot.

Other races, at the time of this writing: Brian Chabot, LP nominee for U.S. Senate, is at 1.7 percent in a four-way race (with 94 percent of precincts reporting). Robert Lombardo, U.S. House District 1, is at 1.9 percent in a 5-way race.

In down-ticket races, Lisa Wilber received 960 votes (7 percent) in Hillsboro District 2; and former LPNH Chair Rich Tomasso pulled in 5 percent for N.H. Executive Council, District 4, in a three-way race.

New Jersey

Libertarian members, voters double

Mike Roche won 24 percent of the vote in his race for Ocean Township Committee. Patrick McKnight won 10 percent in his race for Montgomery Township Committee.

The number of registered Libertarians grew 109.5 percent in the past 12 months. The number of dues paying members grew 95 percent.

New Mexico

Election results inspire ambitious plans for 2018

Thanks to our “favorite son,” presidential candidate Gary Johnson, the Libertarian Party of New Mexico (LPNM) will now enjoy equal major-party status with the Democrats and Republicans for at least the next two years; longer, if our gubernatorial candidate in 2018 polls at 5 percent or above.

This is an incredible, giant step forward for the LP in general and the LPNM in particular.

Volunteers called over 350,000 (!) registered voters in the last several weeks before the election, and have reported getting good feedback from those voters—as evidenced also by Johnson–Weld’s polling at nearly 9 percent here in the Land of Enchantment. While some called into question our nominees’ Libertarian credentials, there can be absolutely no doubt that this has been the most successful Libertarian presidential

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AFFILIATE

UPDATES

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campaign in the history of our beloved Party of Principle, here in New Mexico and in the rest of the nation as well.

The LPNM is gearing up for a major push to establish county affiliates in each of New Mexico's counties, increase our registered Libertarian voter numbers, and make sure there is a Libertarian candidate for each and every partisan office, come 2018. There were far and away too many incumbents running unopposed this election cycle—nearly 50 percent by some estimates—and the LPNM intends to change that.

In other election news, first-time candidate Joe Nichols, a LPNM central committee member, ran for State House District 54 (as an independent because of a missed deadline). He finished at 24.38 percent in a two-way race. A solid finish, Joe!

With much sadness, the LPNM reports the loss of our beloved treasurer and 2016 elector, Allen Cogbill, who unexpectedly passed away on October 25 from a recently contracted lung disease. Allen performed his duties as treasurer superbly, always presenting his reports in an easily understood manner, and always impeccably. Allen Cogbill was an exceptional Libertarian who lived his principles with dedication and integrity, and was a good friend to everyone.

Allen, thank you for enriching our lives with your presence. We will miss you.

Oklahoma

Ballot access secured for 2018

We did it! 83,334 Oklahomans voted for Gov. Gary Johnson, giving him 5.74 percent of the vote in our state. That's more than double the 2.5 percent needed for LP

Oklahoma (OKLP) to maintain official party status. Congratulations to the 15 down-ticket candidates, who also did very well. Through them, Libertarians have proven to be a significant voting bloc—one to be taken seriously.

Election results are: Robert Murphy, U.S. Senate: 3 percent; Sevier White, U.S. House District 4: 4 percent; Zachary Knight, HD 5: 6 percent; Richard Prawdzienski, State Sen. Dist. 41: 4 percent; Frank Grove, SD 35: 35 percent; Erin Adams, HD 33: 5 percent; Clark Duffe, HD 39: 23 percent; Zac Davis, HD 67: 4 percent; Tamara Morton, HD70: 6 percent; Eugene Bell, HD 78: 6 percent; Steve Long, HD 81: 7 percent; Shannon Grimes, HD 86: 4 percent; Elle Collins, HD 87: 7 percent; Christina Wright, HD 100: 6 percent; Chris Powell, Okla. County Clerk: 36 percent.

Those numbers are a tremendous accomplishment. The OKLP considers all 15 candidates as having delivered "wins," given the circumstances and political history of the state. The bar will now be set much higher. To that end, interest and excitement in all aspects of the party has skyrocketed. Groups have begun spontaneously organizing, to raise money and recruit candidates for the next elections.

OKLP would like to thank our fellow Libertarians nationwide who helped us achieve ballot access after 16 long years without it. Thanks to Govs. Johnson and Weld for bringing integrity and dignity to their campaign. The contrast between them and the establishment candidates made us proud. Thank you, tireless activists in the Live Free campaign. Thanks, of course, to the 15 state candidates who stepped up to run. And, last, we thank the voters of Oklahoma who through their support for LP candidates have proven themselves optimistic about the future and the possibility of real change.

Record endorsements

...continued from page 6

fluence his decisions."

Jared Grifoni was endorsed by the *Naples Daily News* in his successful bid for Marco Island City Council (see article, p. 4).

Jessica Pallett earned the support of the National Women's Political Caucus of Texas in her run for Texas State House, Dist. 94.

Paotie Dawson, candidate for Colorado House of Representatives, District 18, was endorsed by the only independent newspaper in town, the *Manitou Marquee*.

Dan Hogan, campaigning for U.S. House, Missouri, 3rd district, was endorsed by the Transportation Division

of the SMART union (the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers).

Glenn Gustitus, running for Missouri State House, District 12, was endorsed by NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri, Advocates of Planned Parenthood of St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri, and Planned Parenthood Votes Great Plains.

Martin Moulton, candidate for U.S. Delegate for the District of Columbia, secured the endorsement of Dick Heller, successful plaintiff in the landmark case in which the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution protects an individual's right to possess a firearm for self-defense within the home.

Cara Schulz, running for Burnsville City Council in Min-

Swinging the election?

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Libertarians also beat the margin in down-ticket races.

Lon Cecil covered the spread for governor in North Carolina with 2.2 percent of the vote, and Max Abramson beat the spread with 4.2 percent in the New Hampshire governor's race.

Four Libertarians beat the spread in U.S. Senate races: Joe Miller with 29.6

Moore's censure

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twice in the span of as many days to raise taxes on his constituents, including a vote to support a 'More Cops' tax which the Libertarian Party of Nevada has tirelessly and thus far successfully opposed, and a vote to provide a \$750 million subsidy to finance a ... sports stadium at the expense of, among others, indigent persons renting weekly rooms in motels; and

Whereas the elected leaders of our state affiliate party in Nevada have rightfully voted to censure Assemblyman Moore for these egregious votes; and

Whereas we wish to convey a strong message

Polling bias

...continued from page 13

that amount, which might have won him a golden ticket into the debates.

CNN's excuse was that millennials are hard to sample accurately because they use cell phones more. But CNN certainly had the resources to make extra calls and ensure sound poll results.

In the end, only Trump and Clinton were included in the presidential debates. Was this an accident, or was it intentional?

Respected polls showed that between 57 and 62 percent of American voters wanted Gov. Gary Johnson included in the debates. The CPD ignored them.

**"If you don't address
Libertarian ideas, you
lose."**

—Nicholas Sarwark, LNC Chair

percent in Alaska (see article, p. 8), Sean Haugh with 3.2 percent in North Carolina, Brian Chabot with 1.8 percent in New Hampshire, and Edward Clifford with 3.9 percent in Pennsylvania. •

to all and sundry that while we welcome sitting legislators in the Republican or Democrat parties who decide to switch to the Libertarian Party as an act of conscience, we do not welcome them if they intend, as members of our party, to continue voting and acting like Republicans or Democrats;

Therefore be it resolved that the Libertarian National Committee hereby censures Assemblyman Moore for his recent votes in support of tax increases, requests that he return the \$10,000 campaign contribution which the LNC this season voted to send him, and admonishes him to henceforward be a better champion of the values held by members of the political party with which he has chosen to affiliate if he intends to remain a Libertarian. •

Had Johnson been included in the three debates, he might well have been competitive with both Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. The CPD and its biased polls cost Libertarians—and the American people—a say in filling the nation's highest office.

Misleading polls must be replaced with ones that reliably reflect the will of the people. Getting the truth from pollsters is key to electing Libertarians and to realizing a resurgence of individual liberty. •

Steve Kerbel, founder of Truth in Polling, and Michael Cloud, author of Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion, contributed to this article.

nesota, was endorsed by Blue Republicans (moderate Democrats and Republicans), and by Women Winning, an organization which promotes pro-choice, feminist candidates.

Rob Lapham, running for election to U.S. House in Florida's 2nd District, was named a "Champion of Champions" for American Veterans by the Center for American Homeless Veterans (CAHV), headquartered in Falls Church, Va.

CAHV's president, retired USAR Maj. Brian Hampton, wrote, "In 20 years of making endorsements for federal office, rarely has the Center for American Homeless Veterans found such a decisive and compelling case for the endorsement of a federal candidate. CAHV gives its absolute and emphatic endorsement to Rob Lapham to be elected to the Congress." •

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2017 Libertarian Party conventions

Keep the momentum going! Be a delegate at your state LP convention.



January 21: Arizona
March 11: New Jersey
March 18: New Hampshire
March 24-25: Iowa
March 24-26: Colorado
April (days TBD): Mississippi
April 8: New Mexico

Convention dates are those known as of press time.

For updates and newly scheduled conventions, check with your LP state affiliate
(listed at the LP website: www.LP.org/states).

Scenes from Election 2016



Libertarian Mark West (right) for U.S. House District 1 (Arkansas) in a debate on AETN public television in October



Gov. Gary Johnson for president on the "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" show, Oct. 19



LNC Chair Nicholas Sarwark (left) on the Nov. 4 broadcast of "Stossel," on Fox Business Network



Libertarian Lucy Brenton for U.S. Senate (Indiana) in a televised debate

What have you missed recently on LP.org?

- *Daily Beast*: Libertarians to America: "Don't Blame Us for Trump"
- Pelosi sees threat to Clinton from Libertarian candidate
- UNM College Republicans back Gary Johnson for president
- Libertarian candidates pledge to contain and reduce government authority
- *Washington Post* article shows Gov. Gary Johnson a guardian of taxpayer money
- Drew Carey joins Johnson Weld 2016 as Honorary Chair for California
- New Jersey Libertarian interviewed by Huffington Post
- Arkansas Libertarian Mark West gives strong performance in debate
- *Reason* interviews LP Chair on Gary Johnson, LP future
- Libertarian Michelle Darnell dominates opponent in two candidate forums
- *USA Today* letter to the editor: "Should Clinton withdraw, so she doesn't spoil the race for Libertarian Gary Johnson?"

I cannot vote for either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump and [I] plan to vote for Gary Johnson for president. In a nutshell, big government is our biggest problem. It thrives on more debt, more taxes, more regulations, more war, a secretive deep state and less personal freedom. Both Clinton and Trump would grow the government. Only Johnson would shrink it.

—**Judge Napolitano in *Reason*, 11/3**

If the Democrats find themselves searching for scapegoats by parsing [third] parties' totals rather than asking how they managed to nominate a candidate so weak that Wisconsin was in play, they really aren't asking the right questions.

—**Jesse Walker at *Reason's* Hit & Run Blog, 11/9**

[Gov. Gary Johnson] said that quantitative easing, which is when the Fed buys bonds with newly created dollars, is just an attempt to "override the free market" that will only lead to "malinvestment, inflation, and prolonged unemployment." And since he would not only get to pick two Fed members in 2017, but also a new Fed chair in 2018, what he thinks matters.

—**Matt O'Brien in the *Washington Post*, 9/22**

We should be clear-eyed about recognizing AleppoMania for what it is: A chance to avoid, not defend, foreign policy "seriousness," while aggressively marginalizing an admittedly flawed candidate who would dare challenge Washington's decades-long addiction to no-fly zones, "smart" war, and historical amnesia.

—**Matt Welch at *Reason's* Hit & Run Blog, 10/24**

Every four years the Democrat and Republican candidates engage in a Kabuki dance designed to entertain, while simultaneously perpetuating the possibility that voters will play a meaningful role in defining and controlling the destiny of this nation. Then, to the subsequent lament of Americans, elected politicians maintain the status quo and further diminish the populace's economic prowess, educational opportunities, and upward mobility. As P.T. Barnum is credited with saying, "There's a sucker born every minute."

—**Ayanna Nahmias in *National Monitor*, 9/23**